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BIRTH.

At Shanghai, on the 10th March, the wife of A. KOFF, of a son. [621]

DEATHS.

From heart disease, on the 29th January, 1895, on board the steamer *Palinurus*, between Colombo and Suez, ARTHUR HUNT, formerly of A. S. Watson & Co., Limited. Aged 57 years. Buried at sea. [597]
At No. 8, Sagamiyama-yamate, Nagasaki, on Sunday, 3rd inst., EMILY MAY, second daughter of Francis Sutton, Esq., F.I.C., of Norwich, and beloved wife of Dr. Herbert Blackburn. Aged 33 years.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 1st February arrived, per M. M. steamer *Caledonien*, on the 4th March (32 days); and the English mail of the 8th February arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Ganges*, on the 8th March (23 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Favourable advices have been received from the New Balmoral Gold Mining Company's mines.

Important new works are to be constructed at British naval and military stations, including Hongkong.

The annual meeting of the Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Limited, was held on the 10th inst., when the report and accounts were adopted without discussion.

From Yokohama telegrams in the *Shanghai Mercury* we learn that Marshal Yamagata has been appointed Minister of War and that Admiral Count Saigo remains Minister of Marine.

The British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society is said to have received an intimation that the contract for supplying Chinese coolies for servile labour in Brazil, against which the Society lately entered a strong protest, has now been withdrawn.

The half-yearly meeting of the National Bank of China, Limited, was held on the 10th inst. The Chairman spoke with satisfaction of the progress made by the bank, and the report and accounts were adopted and a dividend of \$1.25 per share was declared.

It is reported at Tientsin that Mr. Detring is now no longer officially connected with the Chinese I. M. Customs service, and official despatches from that port are said to have been received at Shanghai confirming the news that he has been appointed Director-General of the Kaiping Mines and North China Railways.

The report of the Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Limited, for 1894 has been issued. The net profit, including \$513 brought forward, amounts to \$10,295, out of which it is proposed to pay a dividend of 7 per cent. on the ordinary shares, which will absorb \$9,380, and carry forward \$15 to new profit and loss account.

At the meeting of shareholders of the Shanghai Waterworks Co., Limited, to be held on the 21st inst., the Directors intend to recommend the payment of a final dividend of 18s. per share, which with the interim dividend of 12s. paid last July will make £1.10 paid for the year 1894, or 7½ per cent. on the share issue of the Company.

The report of the Hongkong Hotel Co., Limited, for the last half-year shows a balance at credit of profit and loss account of \$576, including \$2,765 brought forward from last account, as compared with a debit balance of \$10,379 on the 31st December, 1893. Payment of interest amounting to \$16,657 on loans and debentures is included in the account.

The *N. C. Daily News* says:—"The Russian naval authorities have applied to the principal shipping firms for particulars of their vessels trading in these waters, their number, tonnage, speed capacity, etc. The object of this enquiry is not apparent at present." Similar information was telegraphed to Japan, but the telegrams from Shanghai to Japan during the war have been very unreliable. As the statement appears in our Shanghai morning contemporary, however, presumably it is not without foundation.

The Local Manager of the Straits Insurance Co., Limited, has received a telegram from his head office, Singapore, that at the annual general meeting to be held on 21st inst. the Directors will recommend the payment of a dividend of 10 per cent. on account of profit and loss account 1894 (underwriting account 1893), the placing of \$20,000 to general reserve fund, \$10,000 to reserve for outstanding losses (1893 and previous years account), and \$120,000 to exchange and investment fluctuation reserve. The net premiums for 1894 are \$950,000 and the balance of working account 1894, \$450,000, is carried forward.

Telegraphic intelligence has been received at Bangkok to the effect that the two Bills regulating the jurisdiction of Danish Consuls and the registration of Danish companies in countries under extra-territorial jurisdiction, having passed the Danish Parliament, had received the King's sanction. The Bangkok Tramways Co. will now have a legal status.

About fifty Japanese are now engaged in rice cultivation at Sapatoom, in Siam, in connection with the Siam Emigration Company. The company is experimenting with these Japanese labourers, and in case of success intends to arrange for bringing out two or three thousand more of them next year, comprising jewellers, bricklayers, farmers, tailors, ship carpenters, and clerks.

The agents of the China Mutual Steam Navigation Co., Limited (Messrs. Holliday, Wise & Co.), have just received a telegram stating that a highly satisfactory general meeting of the Company was held in London lately, at which it was decided to declare a final dividend of 3 per cent., making 6 per cent. in all for last year on the preference shares, and also a dividend of 5 per cent. on the ordinary shares, each dividend to be payable on the 12th inst. The Company has also been able to set aside £30,000 to the depreciation and reserve fund, which is a considerable improvement on last year.

The city of Newchwang was captured by the Japanese on the 4th inst. and afterwards Yin-kow was taken, the first and second army corps effecting a junction at this place, which forms the ports of Newchwang. The foreign settlements there are protected by Japanese guards. It is reported that Japan has requested that Li Hung-chang's departure on the peace mission may be deferred for a week. In the meantime negotiations have been proceeding through the medium of the United States Ministers at Peking and Tokyo, and it is said China has agreed to the autonomy of Korea, payment of an indemnity, and the cession of territory.

The report of the Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Co., Limited, for 1894 has been issued. The gross profit, including the balance brought forward from last year, amounts to \$46,152, and after writing off \$10,000 for depreciation of plant and machinery there remains \$36,152, which it is proposed to appropriate as follows:—To place to reserve fund, \$5,000, to pay a dividend of 18 per cent., \$27,000, to carry forward to next year's account, \$4,152. Owing to the heavy demand for the Company's rope created by the war in the north factory was for the first time in its existence kept steadily going throughout the year, with the exception of a few days in the summer when work was stopped by the plague.

The report of the China and Manila Steamship Co., Limited, for 1894 has been issued. The gross profit, including the balance from last year, amounts to \$31,814, and after writing off \$13,000 for depreciation of steamers there remains \$18,814, which it is proposed to deal with as follows, viz.—to pay a dividend of 7 per cent., \$17,500; to carry forward to next year's account \$1,314. The result, the report states, is disappointing compared with last year's, but has been brought about by two causes, viz., the accident to the *Zafiro*, which struck on a rock while leaving the harbour on 14th November last and the prevalence of the plague in Hongkong, which necessitated a further loss of 15 days' quarantine at Manila to each steamer during the greater part of the year.

THE CREDENTIALS OF THE SECOND PEACE EMBASSY.

After the return of the second peace embassy to Shanghai a letter was published there, purporting to be one addressed by the Chinese Ambassadors to the Plenipotentiaries of the Emperor of Japan, after negotiations had been broken off. The correspondence which passed between the two parties had been officially published in Japan, but the letter in question was not included, and for a very good reason, as now appears, namely, that acceptance of it was refused. The letter affirmed the sufficiency of the powers of the Chinese negotiators and in diplomatic language protested against the treatment meted out to them. From the manner in which this letter was published at Shanghai it might have been inferred that it was duly received by the Japanese representatives and had been purposely and improperly omitted from the officially published correspondence. The real circumstances are set out in the *Japan Mail* as follows:—

"The conference held at Hiroshima came definitely to an end on February 2nd. The Japanese Plenipotentiaries, having explained that the insufficiency of the powers carried by the Chinese made it impossible to discuss terms of peace with them, then made this formal declaration:—Under these circumstances it only remains for the Plenipotentiaries of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan to declare the present negotiation at an end.' Thus the negotiation was formally concluded and all further interchange of communications became impossible. Nevertheless, on the 3rd of February—that is to say, on the day after official termination of the negotiations—the Chinese Envoys addressed to the Japanese Plenipotentiaries the despatch reproduced above. It was immediately returned with an explanation that the negotiation having been publicly and finally closed owing to the incapacity of the Chinese Envoys no communication could be received from them. Obviously the Japanese Plenipotentiaries, having found that the Chinese Envoys were not properly accredited, and having, on that ground, refused to confer with them, were effectually precluded from receiving their despatches. Yet the Chinese Envoys have published the despatch thus returned to them; have pretended that it formed part of the official correspondence; have made no allusion whatever to the fact of its immediate return, and have inferentially accused the Japanese Government of repressing it with intent to mislead the public. We presume that the only comment necessary is, these are Chinese methods."

Our contemporary, however, goes on to discuss the despatch and refutes by interesting historical evidence the statement that the commission submitted by CHANG and SHAO was similar in form to those with which the Emperor of China had been accustomed to invest his ambassadors. It appears that in the peace negotiations with Great Britain precisely the same question was raised, and on the 6th May, 1858, Lord ELGIN addressed the Chinese Commissioner as follows:—"The Undersigned has already apprised the Imperial Commissioner TAU that the letter addressed by him to the Undersigned on the 30th of April was entirely unsatisfactory. Holding, as he does, from Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain Plenipotentiary Powers, he cannot consent to treat with a Representative of the Emperor of China who is only authorized to enter on negotiations, to report to the Throne, and to request instructions as to the course he is to pursue." The above quotation is given by our contemporary. It may be of some interest to our

readers to supplement it by further quotations from the blue books of that period. On the 28th April, 1858, TAU wrote to the Earl of ELGIN stating that he had been appointed to meet his Lordship and enter on negotiations with him; but as Her Majesty's name was placed in a lower position than that of the Emperor of China the Earl of ELGIN refused to receive the despatch. Thereupon, two days later, TAU wrote again and threw the blame of the affront on a copyist. The second despatch was in similar terms to the first, with the exception of the position given to Her Majesty's name, and it stated that the writer had been appointed, with two other Commissioners, to meet the British Plenipotentiary for "the discussion and disposal of the questions contained in the letters of the different Governments." Warned by the defective powers of the Commissioners sent by the Emperor to treat with Sir JOHN BOWRING and Mr. McLANE in 1855, the Earl of ELGIN rightly considered it necessary to be careful on this point, and accordingly he wrote to TAU, and, after stating his own powers, asked the Imperial Commissioner to inform him positively whether the Emperor had conferred upon him corresponding powers and such as rendered him competent to independent discussion and to the conclusion of negotiations. TAU replied that he was authorized "to report to the Throne and request instructions as to the steps to be taken." The Earl of ELGIN refused to treat on this basis and gave TAU six days to obtain powers similar to those granted to KIYING and ILIPOO in their negotiations with Sir HENRY POTTINGER.

It would appear that precisely the same point must have been raised by Sir HENRY POTTINGER, for the Imperial decree by which at length what were deemed full powers were conferred on KIYING and ILIPOO ran as follows:—"As, however, to judge from the reply they have written the barbarians seem in doubt as to the competency of KIYING and ILIPOO to act for themselves, let KIYING and ILIPOO affectionately exhort them (to put their doubts away). If they be sincere in their desire for a cessation of hostilities, and are indeed anxious for (our) assent (to what they propose) there is no need for extraordinary suspicion or apprehension on their part. The Ministers above named, who have been specially selected, will not fail, on the one hand, to be carefully regardful of the dignity of the state; on the other, to show a condescending consideration for the feelings of the barbarians. In any case, requiring that the course pursued be in accommodation to circumstances. Let them modify their course accordingly. Nor shall we, at this distance, restrict them." Although the language in which this is couched is highly objectionable, the closing words conferred full powers on the Commissioners, though this was disputed by TAU, who alleged that the things done by them were from time to time submitted to the Throne and that they had no independent authority whatsoever.

Evidence of TAU's possessing sufficient powers being refused, the Taku forts were taken. Thereupon KWEILIANG and HWA-SHANA, who possessed higher office, were appointed to meet the Earl of ELGIN, and although they attempted to shuffle with regard to their powers, the British Plenipotentiary was firm, and eventually full powers and a seal were produced, and the treaty was concluded. In 1860 the same point was again raised, and on that occasion the Earl of ELGIN was so far imposed upon that negotiations had proceeded for some time when the Commissioners intimated that they had not the requisite authority to treat with

him, and as this was, in Lord ELGIN's words, evidently a device to gain time, he thought it his duty to inform them that negotiations were closed for the time being and that they could not be resumed until he should have reached Tungechow. It is unnecessary to follow further the history of the treachery and bad faith of the Chinese, which led to the advance on Peking. Apparently they wished in a similar manner to play fast and loose with Japan. After the experience China has had it is absurd to say that the powers granted to CHANG and SHAO were in what was supposed to be the usual form. China cannot in this matter plead ignorance; and Japan, on her part, knowing the devious ways of the Chinese, was right in declining to treat with representatives not fully authorized and in refusing to allow them to remain in Japan while they carried on a tedious correspondence with their own Government on the subject, for the sending of the mission with insufficient powers might reasonably be considered merely a device to gain time.

LORD WOLSELEY ON CHINA'S MILITARY POTENTIALITY.

The events of the war between China and Japan have to some extent disillusionised some of the English writers who were, a few months ago, so fond of prophesying the ultimate defeat of the latter. Even General Lord WOLSELEY, who has predicated all sorts of possibilities for the millions of the great Chinese race, has been constrained to admit, in his latest contribution to literature, which appears in the February number of the *Cosmopolitan* magazine, that if the war goes on, and China fails to organise "a thoroughly efficient army of about one hundred thousand men under English or other foreign officers, she ought by June next to be under the heel of her present invaders." But the pro-Chinese convictions of Lord WOLSELEY and some other enthusiasts about China's millions and their hardihood, thrift, and patience, die very hard. The gallant General, though compelled to admit that the Japanese have greatly astonished him, and those who thought with him, still maintains the physical superiority and mental equality of the Chinese as compared with the Japanese. He says:—"The Japanese soldier is a very small man, the standard of height in their army being only 4 feet 11½ inches. The Chinese are taller, broader-shouldered, and stronger race. It is, however, very commonly assumed that the Japanese are their superiors mentally, but I believe this to be a popular error. According to many admirable judges, ancient Chinese art has been superior to that of Japan in all ages. Philosophy and the sciences were formerly more cultivated and better understood in China than in Japan; but about two and a half centuries ago a great thick curtain of impenetrable obstruction was let down, as it were, in front of the stage on which the drama of Chinese national progress was being played." But Lord WOLSELEY clearly does not understand how dense is that veil, and how thoroughly it has blinded the educated classes of the Chinese people. Neither has he any conception of the grip which official corruption has over the entire race, nor of how deep-seated is the disease in the people. From the viceroy in his yamen to the lowest coolie in a hovel or a sampan, all are imbued with the same passion for gain, which renders the squeeze universal and honesty an unknown quantity.

Unfortunately Lord WOLSELEY, although he has seen service in China, and knows something—though very little—of the Chinese as fighters, has only the most superficial acquaintance with the country or with the

people generally, though he does not hesitate to dogmatise on the subject. It is true that he is not wholly blind to the causes that have rendered China so helpless when brought into collision with Japan. He admits that the contempt with which the educated Chinaman has for generations viewed the military profession has been of itself a complete bar to military efficiency. The rank and file have for ages been drawn from the lowest, most idle, and most dangerous classes in the Empire. His lordship also admits that there is no aristocracy to draw upon for officers, "a fact which has much to do with the want of all healthy military spirit, all feeling of personal honour, pride of race, or even pride in their calling amongst Chinese soldiers of all ranks." But though our "only general" so-called sees that there will be an insuperable difficulty in officering and ruling a Chinese army, he does not despair of some day seeing his prognostications realised. He writes, referring to the future of China after the war:—"What ever may be the form of government evolved through her defeat, I think it may be assumed that she will, without loss of time, create a regular army upon European lines. I can see no limit to the size of the army she could raise, and, according to my estimate of the fighting qualities of her men, I think it ought soon to be the first army in the world. Indeed, I can see no good reason why, in the next few generations, it should not, if properly led, turn out of Asia every European Power now holding territory there." His lordship goes on to expatiate at length on the admirable qualities of the Chinese race. "I believe," he says, "the Chinese people to possess all the mental and physical qualities required for national greatness. They love the land of their birth with a superstitious reverence; they believe in their own superiority, and despise all other races. They are fine men, endowed with great powers of endurance; industrious and thrifty, they have few wants and can live on little, and that little poor food. Absolutely indifferent to death, they are fearless and brave, and when well trained and well led make first-rate soldiers. I have seen them under fire, and found them cool and undismayed by danger." Lord WOLSELEY then proceeds to recommend that China should remodel her army, engaging English officers to train it as the Egyptian army has been trained, in order presumably that a weapon should be forged wherewith his countrymen may first be dispossessed of their Asiatic colonies and eventually evicted from India.

Now Lord WOLSELEY may be able to regard this contingency with complacency, in the comfortable conviction that he will not live to witness it—*après moi le déluge*—but the coming men can hardly be expected to look at the matter in the same light. Still less can they be expected to feel the extraordinary sympathy extended by this eccentric faddist to a race whose good qualities are blended with so many objectionable traits, and whose rise to power in Asia would be fraught with such unmistakable menace to the higher civilisation of the Caucasian. If there really was any prospect of the scribbling general's prophecies being fulfilled we think the very last thing any patriotic Briton, or for the matter of that any sensible European of whatever nationality, would dream of doing would be to advocate the training of a vast Mongolian army for the special purpose of ousting Europeans from the Orient. For our part we do not share and have small patience with Lord WOLSELEY's craze. We are ready to concede that the Chinese are as the sands of the sea for multitude; but they are spread over a

huge country, they include many tribes having little sympathy with each other, having diverse tastes and qualities, the immense majority of whom are a sheep-like people wholly averse to fighting of any kind; they are greatly disinclined to military service, and abhor the restrictions of discipline. They have shown during the present war of what calibre they are made, and though there is no doubt that if better drilled, better fed, better led, and better paid they would have exhibited greater courage and constancy, it cannot be doubted that they have none of the instincts of a military people, and are not made of the material from which have sprung the conquering races of the world. All their past history proves this to be the fact; they have been repeatedly conquered by very inferior numbers and have invariably bowed meekly to the yoke. They have, however, by passive weight and persistence succeeded thereafter in absorbing the conquerors, who have scarcely made any impress upon them. In like manner they have too often exercised a detrimental effect on European officials accredited to Peking. Some of the Foreign Ministers have certainly been inoculated with the Chinese habit of procrastination and have learned only too well the fatal gift of how not to do it, when the interests of their countrymen have demanded active exertions. Lord WOLSELEY must have come under the spell during his brief campaign in Northern China. At any rate it is evident he has taken Chinomania very badly indeed.

THE WAR AND CHINA'S FINANCIAL CREDIT.

The extent to which the financial credit of China has suffered from her defeat by Japan may be gathered from the fact that of the recent six per cent. loan of three million sterling issued on the London market only a little over one-third was subscribed by the public, the remainder being left on the hands of the underwriters. It is said that the reason why the loan did not go is that "the public does not comprehend the position and strength of the security, while it is uneasy about its value under the repeated defeats of the Chinese." The readiness with which previous Chinese loans were taken up, however, would go to show that the character of the security, when unencumbered, was fully appreciated; that portion of the explanation put forward for the unpopularity of the recent loan therefore appears insufficient. The true explanation evidently is that the public recognise the alteration that has taken place in China's financial condition. The Customs revenue would be much more than sufficient security for the loan of three millions sterling and the recent silver loan, if the Chinese Government were in a position to carry out its undertaking that "no loan, charge, or mortgage shall be created which shall take precedence of or be on an equality with this issue, or which shall in any manner lessen or impair the security over the said Customs revenues so far as they are required for the annual service of the loan." But a conquered country with a heavy indemnity to pay cannot be considered so completely mistress of her own revenues as to give unimpeachable value to an undertaking such as that above quoted. It is said that Japan will demand an indemnity of sixty millions sterling in addition to the expenses of the war, which may possibly be appraised at another ten million. The readiest means by which China could raise money to meet that charge would be by hypothecating her Customs revenue, but the whole of it would be insufficient to cover the annual interest

on a loan of £70,000,000. The reluctance of that section of the investing public which affects Government bonds, and which values good security above high interest, to take up the new Chinese loan is therefore quite comprehensible, for there is a chance, though we think a small one, that payment of the interest might have to be deferred. Japan, if she had an entirely free hand in the matter, might take over the administration of the Customs until her claims were fully satisfied, and might with some show of reason say that the obligations incurred by China for the purpose of waging her unsuccessful war must stand over. But in view of the foreign interests at the treaty ports it is not at all likely that Japan will seek to interfere with the administration of the Customs: what is more probable is that she will hold territorial security until her demands are satisfied and leave China to raise the money as best she can. In that case the foreign loan will still remain the first charge on the Customs, and the underwriters, though they have probably more of the paper left on their hands than they expected, may be congratulated on having a very remunerative investment. It is evident, however, that China has come to the end of her borrowing powers for the present and that it would be impossible to float another loan during the continuance of the war. When peace is restored her financial necessities will be very considerable, and European capitalists may then be found once more ready to accommodate her, provided the political stability of the empire seems fairly assured. But her present Customs revenue will scarcely afford sufficient cover for all the borrowing she will have to do, and that revenue will itself be impaired to the extent involved by the lopping off of Formosa. Under the pressure of necessity, therefore, China may be led to place her internal revenue system on an honest basis, similar to that of the Foreign Customs, in order to render it available as security for such accommodation as may be required.

IS THERE SEDITION IN CHINA?

The fact that no serious attempt at insurrection has been made in China during the progress of the disastrous war with Japan has excited no little astonishment among many observers of events in the Far East. It was generally believed, and had more than once been confidently stated, that the whole of the central provinces of the Chinese Empire were not only disaffected to the reigning dynasty, but that the Hukwang in particular were literally honeycombed with sedition. This statement rested not alone on the testimony of foreigners supposed to be well acquainted with the disposition of the natives but also on the reports of native officials themselves, who professed to be greatly alarmed at the progress of the Kolao Hui conspiracy in the towns and cities of the Yangtze Valley. The activity with which the heads and leaders of this secret society had been credited in 1890-92 seemed to constitute a probability that in the event of a foreign complication arising the Kolao Hui would inevitably prove a very real danger to the State. The foreign residents were repeatedly invited to believe that the disgraceful anti-foreign riots which during the summer of 1891 were so frequent in the Yangtze Valley resulted from the machinations of the secret societies disaffected to the Government, and a great deal of capital was made by the Chinese officials out of the connection of the foolish Customs employes MASON with the Kolao Hui. It was subsequently made apparent, however, that the

Kolao Hui had nothing to do with the riots, murders, and outrages of 1891, which were proved to have been caused by the emissaries of men of official standing, who were all along perfectly well known to the higher officials, being in many cases on intimate terms with them. Before long, however—though not unfortunately until the purpose of the Chinese Government had been only too well served in bluffing the Foreign Representatives at Peking and founding thereon an excuse for refusing reparation for the missionary outrages—the real originators of the crusade against the missionaries were revealed, thanks chiefly to the energetic investigations of Dr. GRIFFITH JOHN. The Kolao Hui may have been actively at work conspiring against the Imperial Government, but they certainly were not interested or involved in the efforts made to terrorise and evict the Christian Missions from Central China.

So much had been made of the alleged plots and the widespread ramifications of the Kolao Hui during the period of the anti-missionary riots and massacres, that it was not unnaturally believed much more would be heard of this formidable society during the war. Their power is believed to be great on account of their numbers, and it is possible that, given a leader of equal energy and daring, they might be dangerous. The Kolao Hui, which title means the Sect of the Elder Brother, originated in Nanking some thirty-five years ago and was formed by members of the late TSEN KWO-YAN's army. Most of the troops in the provinces of Hunan, Hupeh, Honan, and Anhwei belong to it, and its muster roll is known to be a long one. Like most Chinese secret societies, it was avowedly started with the object of securing mutual help and protection to its members, but its real *raison d'être* is to create an association against foreign usurpers, including the Manchu dynasty. It was rumoured years ago that the great TSEN gave the society his approval and secret encouragement. The members for the most part represent the ancient and most conservative race of Han, and they regard the peoples of the more distant provinces, both north and south, with more or less distrust and coolness. The society includes a large number of idle and dissolute characters, ripe for any mischief, but there is no doubt a great many of the members are animated by a strong desire to replace the existing dynasty by a pure-blooded Chinese Emperor. The agents of the Kolao Hui are usually disguised as itinerant pedlars or doctors, and they travel from place to place conveying intelligence from one district officer to another and helping to keep alight the enthusiasm of the members. They have their code of secret signals, the knowledge of which is jealously confined to the members, though some few have leaked out. The Society have on several occasions given active trouble to the Government, and have still more frequently been a source of secret anxiety. At heart they are all more or less anti-foreign, and the attempt of the Chinese Government to trail a red herring over the scent in regard to the Yangtze Valley outrages was successful because of the theory then started by some foreigners that the outrages had been set on foot by the Kolao Hui with the deliberate design of involving the Chinese Government in a foreign war.

Contrary, however, to all expectation the Society and kindred associations have remained quiescent during the past eight months. They may have simply been lying *perdu*, ready to avail themselves of any favourable opportunity to strike a blow against the Government, or they may have been animated by a genuine desire not to

embarrass the authorities while there was a foreign foe at the gates. The latter, though chivalric and patriotic, is not the course generally affected by discontented parties in the state, and it is more likely that the Kolao Hui have maintained a policy of inactivity because they were convinced that the time was not ripe for any overt action. Either they have not been sufficiently prepared or they have judged that the authorities were not sufficiently weakened. They have been waiting events apparently, and now that there seem some chances of peace being concluded through the efforts of the Viceroy LI HUNG-CHANG, they are beginning to prove somewhat more restive. Only very lately it has come to our knowledge that there is grave uneasiness felt in Canton in consequence of a conspiracy known to be proceeding there, of which the secret societies are regarded as the fomentors and movers. It appears, also, that in Kiangsu a demonstration on the part of the Kolao Hui and Pehlien Chiao is expected at an early date, and preparations have been made by the provincial authorities to meet and check any incipient rising that may be in contemplation. The Provincial Commander-in-Chief is reported to have recently ordered the whole gunboat flotilla of Lower Kiangsu, numbering some 360 boats, to assemble at various points in the inland rivers and creeks, so as to be ready to afford each other assistance and support when needed. Volunteer organisations are likewise being pushed on vigorously in the interior, where there is no fear of a foreign invasion, and it is evident that some local rising is anticipated. But though there may be alarm and, if the war goes on, possibly local outbreaks, we do not believe there is any danger of a large and organised rebellion. Weak as the Imperial Government have shown themselves to be *vis-à-vis* their progressive neighbour, they are still powerful as compared with any rebel organisation on Chinese soil. The Kolao Hui or any other revolutionary body would be greatly handicapped in any active measures for the overthrow of the dynasty or Government by the want of a seat of government, a port through which supplies could be drawn, and a navy of sufficient pretensions to dispute the control of the coast with the Chinese men-of-war. Unless therefore they have in their ranks both naval and military officers of standing and influence, any attempt to raise the standard of revolution could only result in their early and complete discomfiture.

AN OUTRAGE BY LEKIN OFFICIALS AT CANTON.

It is impossible to read without a sense of indignation the petition of Mr. DADABHOY SORABJEE FUTTAKIA, which will be found in another column. It appears that on two occasions in the year 1885 Mr. FUTTAKIA was subjected by the Lekin Authorities at Canton to illegal seizures of opium which was at the time being conveyed from the Custom House, after payment of duty, to his own hong. The seizures were, in fact, nothing better than barefaced robbery, for lekin is not leviable on goods owned by foreigners and the seizures in question were made within the settled area of exemption. To prevent any confusion in the mind of the reader it may be as well to state that the affair occurred before the provisions of the Opium Convention came into force, and as regards opium such a proceeding would now be impossible, but in respect of other goods the Lekin Authorities are not infrequently still guilty of action as arbitrary and unjust as that from which Mr. FUTTAKIA suffered, though they generally try to make

the squeeze or perpetrate the confiscation while the goods are in Chinese hands, so as to avoid trouble with foreigners. In 1885, however, they made direct onslaughts on foreign property. One of the principal lekin officers at that time was a certain CHEN WEI TING or CHAN JUI LI, who appears to have been a scoundrel of the first water. This man sent to one of the foreign runners the following remarkable note:—

Dear Charles,—I herewith send you 1 dozen good soldiers and whenever Caranji's opium go over please seize it and also other Parsees, so we must do some duty to-day, be quick the steamer I think is in.

I would call myself on you on account too much water, I am waiting at the pea nut eaters house if you do make a seizure come right to me. I also send one of my chair coolies and my servant, take ben with you and so you know that you got a good man with you. Don't whatever use your revolver, take care not hurt any body.

Chop Chop

Have some spunk to-day and also ben Monday.—Your sincerely,

(Signed) W. T. CHAN.

It was in obedience to this note that the first seizure was made. The second seizure, like the first, was made in broad daylight, while the opium was being taken from the Custom House to Mr. FUTTAKIA's hong. The petitioner's statements are fully confirmed by the affidavits of two foreigners who were in the lekin service at the time and by the statements of several Chinese who were concerned in the matter. There is nothing in the circumstances which could raise the slightest suspicion of any attempt to smuggle.

The successive Consuls at Canton appear to have done what they could to secure redress for Mr. FUTTAKIA, but without success. The particulars of the case having been forwarded to the Legation at Peking by the Consul, Mr. FUTTAKIA addressed a petition to Sir JOHN WALSHAM, the then Minister, in June, 1887, and another in June, 1889. True to his reputation, the late Minister vouchsafed no acknowledgment of either of these documents and the indignation inspired by the injustice and dishonesty of the Chinese Lekin Authorities is almost equalled by that caused by the supineness of a British Minister whose duty it was to protect the interests of his nationals but who systematically neglected the duty. Fortunately for British interests in China, Sir JOHN WALSHAM has been transferred to another appointment. After the change of Ministers took place, Mr. FUTTAKIA again petitioned the Legation, and in the petition he has now forwarded to the Secretary of State he acknowledges the consideration and attention his case has received from Mr. O'CONOR. So far, however, no redress has been secured. On receiving the petition Mr. O'CONOR wrote:—"I regret to inform you I do not think any useful purpose would be served by reviving the discussion of this question. In 1886 Sir JOHN WALSHAM came to the conclusion that he could no longer press for satisfaction of your claim, and in view of this decision and of the length of time which has since elapsed I cannot undertake to re-open the case." This looked unpromising, but on the matter being further represented the Minister recognised the claim as one deserving of consideration. Mr. FUTTAKIA pointed out that he had never been informed by Sir JOHN WALSHAM that he had arrived at any conclusion or of the grounds on which the conclusion had been arrived at, and that in the absence of such information he had been deprived of the opportunity of representing the facts to the Secretary of State. Now, as to the conclusion alleged to have been arrived at by Sir JOHN WALSHAM, clearly if arrived at all it must have been on an insufficient inquiry into the case, for he must have accepted the *ex parte* statements of the

Chinese, to which Mr. FUTTAKIA had no opportunity of replying. As this course would save trouble for the moment it was probably that adopted by Sir JOHN WALSHAM, who would then carefully docket the papers and put them in a pigeon hole, for according to all reports excessive neatness in regard to his papers was his ideal of the whole duty of a British Minister. To resume the thread of the correspondence, however; on receipt of Mr. FUTTAKIA's letter urging reconsideration of his petition Mr. O'CONOR wrote:—"The details set forth in your petition forwarded to me on December 3rd, 1892, engaged my careful attention, and although, as I told you at the time, I had little or no hope of a satisfactory result attending my representations, I nevertheless brought the matter to the notice of the Ministers of the Taungli Yamên at a recent interview, and commended your case and the hardship entailed upon you by the action of the local officials to their Excellencies' favourable consideration, and urged them to advise the Provincial authorities to again look into the matter. I regret to say that I can hold out no hope of such action being taken, inasmuch as the Chinese authorities, in their treatment of the case in 1885-6, advanced counter-arguments and statements to which they still adhere." To this Mr. FUTTAKIA replied, urging that he had been kept in the dark as to the counter-arguments and statements that the Chinese authorities advanced in their treatment of the case in 1885-86 and had therefore had no opportunity of meeting them, and he asked His Excellency to commend the case again to the Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamên for a fair and unprejudiced reconsideration. The Minister replied that although he could not hold out much prospect of the claim being satisfactorily settled the matter had not been lost sight of and was still engaging his attention as well as that of Her Majesty's Consul at Canton. Here the correspondence with the Minister ends, the last letter being dated the 3rd October, 1893.

On the 28th of the same month the following studiously insulting letter was addressed by the Viceroy Li to Mr. F. S. A. BOURNE, who was then the Acting Consul at Canton:—

23th October, 1893.

Sir,—I have received a report from the Lekin Board in regard to my communication to them dated 3rd October, 1893, in which I informed the Board that I had received a despatch from your predecessor in office in regard to a case that occurred some years ago, namely, the Futtakia smuggling case, and that I had replied to your predecessor that since he said that Mr. Futtakia was old and poor I would without going into the merits of the case, but merely for the sake of good relations, send all the papers to the Board to consider the matter carefully and decide what could be done for Futtakia by way of compassion and that the Board should report their decision at once.

The Board find that "this seizure case occurred in 1885 when it was referred by the then Viceroy to the Prefect of Canton; and that in consequence of his report the claim against the Government was dismissed, therefore the case does not on its merits deserve to be taken up again. But since the British Consul says that Futtakia is old and poor and wishes to return to his own country, but is too badly off to afford the expense, &c., considering the facts of the case and with regard to friendly relations, Futtakia's bad circumstances are certainly deserving of pity. It seems that we might make him a present towards his travelling expenses as an unusual indulgence. We have talked the matter over together and propose that \$300 (three hundred Mexican dollars) should be given to Mr. Futtakia through H.B.M. Consul towards his travelling expenses on his return to his own country."

With regard to this report from the Lekin Board I would say that having received your predecessor's despatch I instructed the Board to enquire into the circumstances and to report. This I did in consideration of the friendly relations existing between our two countries and this case must not be taken as a precedent in foreign business. In accordance with the Board's recommendation I am willing if Mr. Futtakia definitely proposes to go home to instruct the Lekin Office to pay the above sum of \$300 to you to be handed over to Mr. Futtakia and I beg that you will

inform your predecessor of the contents of this despatch.—I have, &c., Li.

The exalted position of the Viceroy places him beyond the reach of what would be the most appropriate reply to a letter of this description, but it is to be hoped that the Earl of KIMBERLEY will cause to be represented to the Chinese Government in unmistakable terms that strict justice must be done in the matter of Mr. FUTTAKIA's claim. If the Chinese think they have any case against the claim of course they are entitled to a hearing, and the matter might be adjudicated in Canton under the "Rules for Joint Investigation," but so far as appears from Mr. FUTTAKIA's petition and the affidavits, statements, and correspondence attached to it that gentleman has been the victim of a grave injustice.

REJECTION OF THE PETITION FOR REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT.

When the petition for a larger measure of representative government for this colony was published we remarked that the usual fate of petitions to the House of Commons was never to be heard of again. The Hongkong petition has been heard of, but apparently only in reply to a question. REUTER informs us that Mr. SYDNEY CHARLES BUXTON, Parliamentary Under Secretary for the Colonies, has intimated that after careful consideration of the Memorial from Hongkong for a representative government, Lord RIXON is unable to grant the petition. There presumably the matter ends, so far as the House of Commons is concerned. That the constitution of the colony stands in need of reform few will be found to dispute, but the House of Commons is hardly the quarter in which to look for assistance. To us, who are on the spot, our grievances naturally loom rather largely, but to the members of the House, concerned with matters of great domestic and imperial importance, the parochial affairs of this distant outpost of the empire must naturally appear insignificant. The imperial importance of the colony is fully recognised, but questions concerning its municipal government the House may not unreasonably be inclined to leave to the decision of the Secretary of State for the Colonies. It is to Her Majesty through the Secretary of State that the colony should have addressed itself, and it should have preferred a clear and distinct demand. The signatories to the petition said they were not so impractical as to expect that unrestricted power should be given to any local legislature, or that the Queen's Government should ever give up the paramount control of this important dependency; but they asked that they should be allowed the free election of representatives of British nationality in the Legislative Council, a majority in the Council of such representatives, perfect freedom of debate and of vote for the official members, complete control in the Council over local expenditure, the management of local affairs, and a consultative voice in questions of an Imperial character. Large and vague requests of that character have little chance of securing much attention. What the colony really requires is a Municipal Council, and that could probably be had for the asking, but unfortunately there seems little disposition to ask for it. A Legislative Council exists, as its name implies, for the purpose of legislation, and it exercises practically no control in executive matters, whereas a Municipal Council is essentially an executive body. And it is a popularly elected executive body that this colony needs, so that the acts of officials who are now practically irresponsible may be under the direct control of the representatives of the rate-

payers. Take, for instance, for the purpose of illustration, the management of the resumed area in Taipingshan. The property has been resumed by the Crown and is now in the hands of the Government to do what it likes with. It may be kept unoccupied for years, as was the case with the sites purchased for Queen's College and the Central Market, and when it is finally dealt with it may be laid out and utilised in a manner of which the public disapprove, the only check being that the Sanitary Board is responsible for seeing that sanitary requirements are complied with. The Legislative Council might be increased to any extent, but the circumstances as regards the management of the Taipingshan area would remain unaltered, because the matter is not one on which it would be necessary to consult the Legislative Council. If we had a Municipal Council, however, the matter would be entirely under the control of that body; and we should have greater confidence in a wise decision being arrived at by a body of practical business men familiar with the circumstances and requirements of the colony than by one or more officials acting on their own responsibility. Every other community under English jurisdiction is allowed to manage its own municipal affairs, and we fail to see why Hongkong should be an exception to the rule. A Municipal Council is not such an ornamental body as a Legislative Council, but, in the circumstances of this colony, it would be more useful. Its members would not be styled "Honourable," they would not be entitled to write "M.L.C." after their names, nor would they be accorded any position of precedence at state functions, but their opportunities of rendering good and substantial service to the colony would be much greater than those of the members of the more dignified body. That prospect, however, does not seem sufficiently alluring to induce our men of light and leading to take up the cause.

THE INDIAN MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT AND LASCAR SEAMEN.

In India a Bill amending the Merchant Shipping Act is under consideration and in connection therewith some indignation has been expressed in reference to a proposal to increase the minimum space to be allowed for the accommodation of lascar crews. The Hongkong Merchant Shipping Act does not make any distinction between native and European crews in this respect, section 42 providing that so much of the provisions of the English Merchant Shipping Acts as relates to the provisions, health, and accommodation of seamen shall apply, *mutatis mutandis* and so far as the same can be extended, to all ships registered in this colony. Under the Indian law, however, the statutory space required for lascars is six superficial and 36 cubic feet only, or half that required for European seamen. It has been proposed that the space for both classes of seamen should be the same, namely, 12 superficial feet and 72 cubic feet. The *Times of India*, in an article sarcastically headed "Philanthropy—with a Purpose," expresses the hope that public opinion in India will become alive to all that is involved in the proposal. The proposal is, our contemporary says, on the face of it a philanthropic one, but in these days projects put forward in the name of philanthropy must be deemed, in the absence of proof to the contrary, to be made in the interests of pure business, and it will be easy to show, when all the facts have been brought to light, that the demands that have been made upon the Indian Legislature professedly in the interests of the poor lascars have been made with a less real re-

gard for him and his health and his comfort than for the advantage of the English sailors who compete with him, and who wish to drive him from the trade between England and India. Our contemporary then enters on a tirade against factory legislation and legislation for the regulation of mines, and says the conclusion of the whole matter is, that whether mines, factories, or steamships are in question all attempts to introduce a mechanical and artificial uniformity between English and Indian legislation need to be resisted, as they have in nearly every case proved to be attempts to create an analogy in rules and restraints where there is no analogy of conditions. The *Rangoon Gazette* follows suit and says that what makes the proposal all the more objectionable is that the practical effect of its adoption would be to lead owners to substitute European for lascar crews; it turns out to be yet another instance of the pseudo-philanthropy now so often evinced by England in the welfare of the natives of India—a philanthropy which, under cover of protecting natives of India, really secures a gain to some English industry. The objections raised by our contemporaries do not appear very convincing. If it is deemed necessary to provide a certain amount of breathing space for European sailors, why should less be required for Indians? Similar considerations apply to factory and mine legislation, which might be deemed to be even more necessary in India than in England, the people being less advanced in education and general intelligence and therefore less able to take care of themselves. It is easy to sneer at philanthropy, but sneers do not carry conviction, and it is somewhat humiliating to find prominent English journals in India systematically opposing all measures aimed at raising the condition of the labouring classes. It is no doubt the fact that self-interest plays a prominent part in any recommendation Lancashire, for instance, may make in reference to factory legislation in India, or the Seamen's Union in reference to the accommodation of lascar crews, but it is a legitimate and justifiable self-interest. The necessity of such legislation having been recognised in England all who are affected by it have a right to ask that so far as local circumstances permit similar legislation should be made universal throughout the Empire, so that competition may be fair, instead of the industries of one portion receiving an unfair advantage by being exempted from the regulations to which those of other portions of the Empire are subjected.

REVIEWS.

Not so Black as they Painted Her, and Other Stories. By "LULU." Hongkong and Shanghai:—Walter W. Brewer.

THIS is a collection of pleasantly told short stories, several of which have previously appeared in the columns of the *Daily Press* and in other local journals. One or two of them have a local setting and we have heard it suggested that some of the characters are identifiable. There is nothing very sensational either in plot or treatment in any of the tales, but they are all interesting and are told in an easy and agreeable style. Unfortunately the proof reading has been very imperfectly done and the general get up of the book is not in its favour. The title page (we do not refer to the cover) might find a place in a collection of curiosities of typography; the title is not even accorded the dignity of capitals.

Journal of the China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society. Vol. XXVIII. No. 1. Shanghai, Hongkong, Yokohama, and Singapore:—Kelly & Walsh, Limited.

In October, 1890, the China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society distributed a circular requesting information on the very interesting topic of the routes and means of carriage existing

in various parts of China and the facilities offering for the transport of passengers and merchandise. A large number of papers were received in answer to the circular and the result is embodied in the number of the *Journal* before us, which has just been issued. The compilation is of special interest at the present moment, particularly the latter portion of it dealing with the communications in Shantung and Shing-king, the seat of the war. It is probable that one of the results of the war will be the opening up of China generally, or a large portion of it, to foreign intercourse, and a knowledge of the trade routes and means of conveyance will then become of practical importance. Several maps are given illustrating the Si-ngan Plain, Shen-si Province, the roads from Chungking to Yunnan-fu, from Teng-yuet to Yunnan, from Yunnan-fu to Lachai, and from Mang-tze to Posé, the Province of Shantung, and the road from Port Arthur to Newchwang.

Another paper contained in the present number of the *Journal* is "Stray Notes on Korean History and Literature," by Mr. James Scott, of H.B.M.'s Consular Service. Most people who visit Korea come away with vivid impressions of the filth of the natives and the corruption and oppression which characterise the administration. The race does not as a rule excite admiration or sympathy, but they have done so in the case of Mr. Scott, who in his concluding paragraph says:—"I beg to add my tribute to the kindly courteous treatment that I have received from all classes during a nine years' residence in the country. I acknowledge to a strong liking and sympathy for the people, and my best wishes will ever go with them for their future welfare and prosperity."

Transactions of the Asiatic Society of Japan. Vol. XXII. Part 2. Yokohama, Shanghai, Hongkong, and Singapore: Kelly & Walsh, Limited.

THERE are three valuable papers included in the present number of the *Transactions*, one "On a possible origin of the water-wheel," by Mr. J. Troup; another on "The history and development of the railway system in Japan," by Mr. F. H. Trevithick, M.I.C.E.; and the third, on "The population of Japan in the Tokugawa period," by Mr. Garrett Droppers. Mr. Trevithick's paper is peculiarly opportune at a time when the industrial development and military position of Japan are attracting so much attention. The mileage of the lines already open to traffic is 1,932; a further 675 miles are under construction; and the projected railways have a mileage of 1,853. The importance of the lines from an industrial point of view is self-evident, and their military importance is no less, as is shown in the concluding paragraph of Mr. Trevithick's paper. England and Japan, he says, are very similar in size and population. An interesting problem was worked out in England nine years ago which is described as follows:—

"The problem was the assumption that an invading force numbering 150,000 men had commenced to disembark on the coast between Southend and Shoeburyness (north of the mouth of the river Thames), and that hostile vessels were simultaneously ascending the Blackwater river. Instructions were supposed to have been issued by telegraph for the concentration of six Army Corps, numbering about 130,000 men, in the neighbourhood of Chelmsford, to repel the invader, three Corps being brought up as rapidly as possible, and the whole within 48 hours. Particulars were given as to where the troops were stationed all over the country, and the number of men quartered at each place. It was assumed, of course, that the ordinary traffic would be, for the time being, entirely suspended. Tables were made out showing in the most complete detail the number of trains required and all particulars of starting, route to be travelled, the hour of arrival, and time allowed for refreshments and other purposes. The total number of trains employed was 515; the speed was about 25 miles an hour, exclusive of stoppages, the trains following one another on the same lines at intervals of fifteen minutes, and the last train was timed to arrive at Chelmsford within 45 hours and 50 minutes of the hour at which the order was supposed to have been given by telegraph. Thus it is evident that railways have revolutionised the conditions of modern warfare."

If China had possessed a railway system corresponding in any degree to that of Japan the

present war would have been conducted under very different conditions, and it may be assumed that one of the immediate results of the war will be the inauguration of an active policy of railway construction.

The Tourist's Guide to Canton, the West River, and Macao. By R. C. HURLEY. Hongkong: No. onha & Co.

MR. HURLEY'S Guide will be found invaluable to the visitor to Canton. All the principal sights are described and information given as to how best to see them, interesting programmes being arranged for visits of varying duration, so that the most may be made of the time at the visitor's disposal. With this book in his hand the visitor will be able to keep a check on his native guide and to save much of the time usually wasted by the latter's attempts at verbal descriptions. Hints are also given as to the curios that may be picked up, their prices, and the shops in which to look for them. For those who have a few weeks at their disposal a short but interesting trip on the Si-kiang or West River has been arranged. Macao is also carefully described. Plans both of Canton and Macao are given and a useful map of the West River. The compilation and "get up" of the book do credit both to the author and the publishers, and the Guide will no doubt be in large demand. It is surprising what a number of residents of Hongkong have never paid a visit to the interesting city of Canton, and to these a perusal of Mr. Hurley's book may be recommended. The trip may be made for a very moderate expenditure of time and money and the visitor will be well repaid.

REUTERS WAR TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, 6th March.

The Chinese warships captured by the Japanese have arrived at Yokohama.

The Japanese have abandoned Shantung and Weihaiwei after destroying the forts.

The Third and Fifth Japanese Divisions have effected a junction near Liao Yang, a city about 50 miles south of Moukden.

LONDON, 7th March.

Li Hung-chang, whose credentials have been accepted by Japan, has started for that country via Tientsin.

Japan notifies her intention of occupying Newchwang.

The Third Japanese Division has occupied An shong-cheng unopposed.

LONDON, 8th March.

Newchwang has been captured by the Japanese troops after thirteen hours' desperate street fighting. 1,900 Chinese were killed and 500 taken prisoners. The Japanese loss was 200. The Chinese have fled to Yinkow.

LONDON, 11th March.

The Japanese have captured Yinkow (Ying-tsu), together with the Coast forts. The Chinese fled to Thien-chuang-tai, which city was also attacked and captured after three hours' fierce fighting. The Chinese loss was 2,000 and the Japanese 96.

The First and Second Army Corps have effected a junction at Yinkow.

Japanese guards protect the foreign settlements at Yinkow.

Japan has requested that Li Hung-chang's departure on the peace negotiations mission be postponed for a week.

The Amoy correspondent of the *Mercury* writes:—Another great event in the business of this port took place, when on the 13th of last month the first tank-steamer arrived from Hongkong with 192,378 gallons of Russian kerosine oil in bulk. It was the German steamer *Sabine Rickmers*. She anchored for several days in the Outer Harbour, as the proper formalities and the permission to land oil in bulk had not been obtained beforehand. The two tanks for the storage of the kerosine oil, pumping machinery, and the necessary godowns were built on the site of Bellamy Dock, which had been filled in. The two tanks will hold about 900 tons. On the 19th Feb. the *Sabine Rickmers* left again for Hongkong, it taking about 7 hours to pump her oil into the tanks. The tanks were put up and the whole business is owned by the same company that owns the tanks in Shanghai, Swatow, and other places in the East. Messrs. Lapraik, Cass & Co. are Managing Agents.

THE WAR IN MANCHURIA.

The following telegrams appear in the *Shanghai Mercury* :—

Yokohama, 1st March, 6 p.m.

Marshal Oyama sends a telegram, dated 27th ult., stating that on the morning of the 24th ult. the first division of the Japanese army stationed about Kaiping defeated the Chinese near Taipingshan. On the same afternoon about 13,000 Chinese with twenty guns opened an attack from Peimiats, Tunchahotz, and Faoyamiao. After heavy cannonading the Japanese attacked the Chinese centre, and at 3 o'clock that afternoon the Chinese were repulsed and fled toward Yingkow (Newchwang). The Japanese loss was 20 killed and 250 wounded, including 7 officers. The Chinese had 200 killed, but the number of wounded is unknown. The natives state that the Chinese made the attack in full force, numbering 20,000, and that they were led by Generals Sung, Ma, Shang, Chang, and Sun.

Yokohama, 3rd March, 3.40 p.m.

A telegram, dated Haicheng the night of the 28th February, from a native correspondent, states that on that day the First Japanese Army attacked the Chinese forces that were encamped between the Loayang and Newchang roads. The fifth Japanese brigade made an attack on the right wing of the Chinese and routed them, and they fled towards Tafuton. The Japanese main column attacked and routed the Chinese at Changhotai. The sixth Japanese brigade proceeded along the Loayang roads joined their main division and after a smart fight occupied Tungyentai and the vicinities en route to Laoyang. The Japanese loss was ten killed and eighty-two wounded. The Chinese left 150 dead behind them.

YOKOHAMA, 3rd March, 6 p.m.

An official telegram from Haicheng, dated the 28th ult., confirms my former telegram from a native correspondent. The Japanese will make further movements to-morrow (March 1st). The Chinese had in action 15,000, with ten field guns, under the command of General Yih. During the action another force of over 3,000 Chinese troops, coming from the eastward, made an attack on Haicheng, but after a short encounter were repulsed.

Yokohama, 3rd March, 9.30 p.m.

In a telegram from Haicheng, dated the 1st instant, General Nodzu reports that the third division of the Japanese army commenced their advance at 8 o'clock in the morning. Soon after their advance guard encountered 2,000 Chinese soldiers. Captain Hayashi's battalion joined his force with the third division, completely routing the Chinese, and capturing Konshinbo by noon. After this the advance guard drove 3,000 other Chinese troops from Sutaitsun. The Japanese outpost's guard attacked Taitzu, Lushokiao, and Kunfantsz, from which places the enemy retreated to the north. The main Chinese forces are gathered only a short distance from the Japanese front. There was a severe snowstorm; but it ceased towards the afternoon.

THE ATTACK ON NEWCHWANG.

The following telegram appears in the *China Gazette* :—

Haicheng, via Japan, 7th March.

The city of Newchwang was completely captured by the Japanese on the 4th instant, and after thirteen hours' fighting in the streets the Chinese army was utterly routed, leaving 1,880 dead and 500 prisoners in the hands of the Japanese. Sixteen guns were taken, besides horses and large quantities of provisions. The Japanese had 206 killed and wounded, and congratulations have been received by General Nodzu from Prince Komatsu, President of the Central Staff, upon the splendid achievement.

There were five field guns taken, 187 shells, 703,000 cartridges, six boxes of gunpowder, 423 swords, five bags of dynamite, 30 bags of rice, besides maps, stores, and sundries of all descriptions.

From Sutaitsun (a town half-way between Haicheng and Newchwang) the Commander of the Second Army reports that on the morning of the 4th instant the Chinese under Generals Sung-kiang, Ma, and Liu attacked Taipingshan, but by 11 a.m. they were completely routed with-out loss to the Japanese.

LI HUNG-CHANG EXONERATED.

The following telegrams appear in the *N. C. Daily News* :—

Tientsin, 5th March.

The Viceroy Li Hung-chang left Peking to-day and proceeds by steamer direct from Tientsin to Shimonoseki, where the Japanese Government require him to tranship for Hiroshima. Mr. Foster will join the Viceroy there.

Li Hung-chang had his fifth Imperial Audience yesterday, the Empress Dowager being present.

The Privy Council heartily support the peace mission, Prince Kung silencing all opposition by presenting papers showing the failure of the Chinese was due to the backward policy for which they were themselves alone to blame, and exonerating Li Hung-chang.

The powers to negotiate which have been conferred on Li Hung-chang are believed to be complete, his commission being Imperially signed.

Tientsin, 6th March.

The Emperor completely vindicates Li Hung-chang, confessing having tried others yet found him alone trustworthy, and therefore grants him the fullest powers to deal with the Japanese and to control affairs. The Government publicly assumes entire responsibility for the condition of the national defences, being the result of blindness to the progress of other nations. This places future reforms in the hands of Li Hung-chang.

Shanghai, 7th March.

A telegram from Peking says that several Censors, evidently of the Li party, have memorialised the Throne claiming that although there have been attempts to ascribe the whole responsibility to Li Hung-chang for the present catastrophe, the real source of it should be sought for in Peking and not at Tientsin. "From the beginning, Li Hung-chang, as High Commissioner of Peiyang defences, seemed anxious to make every preparation, as could be proved by a reference to his despatches to the Board of Revenue and Tsungli Yamen. But to do this he had to apply to Peking for sanction to touch monies. Li Hung-chang also applied for extra money to purchase more arms, ammunition, and warships from Europe. This was before the war and during the Korean crisis. The President of the Board of Revenue and the Emperor's Tutor, Wenr T'ung-ho, ridiculed the idea of any immediate danger of war and refused Li Hung-chang's appeal, point blank. Then came the *Kowshing* case. Again did Li Hung-chang apply for money and authority to send instantly abroad to buy extra guns, ammunition, and ready-made warships from South America: again was he refused on the ground that Japan did not really dare to fight China and also that the navy and armaments existing in the Peiyang were quite sufficient to overawe a little island kingdom, forgetting that the word "sufficient" alone cannot guarantee absolute victory in war, and that to be quite prepared for emergencies a country should have more than a sufficiency of supplies of every kind. Thus Li Hung-chang was baffled in his efforts to do good to the country from the very beginning. And who is it that is really to blame in the matter?" The Emperor has shelved the memorial for the present, owing to the influence of the person principally denounced. The Viceroy Li's visit to Court has given new life to his friends at the capital.

A telegram from Doctor Daly Newchwang, dated the 28th ultimo, received at Shanghai on the 2nd inst., stated that six hundred wounded soldiers had been admitted to the Red Cross hospital since the previous Sunday. This must have been owing to the fighting which was reported to have taken place in that vicinity about the 24th ultimo. The telegram calls for further funds and accordingly Tls. 1,500 were remitted by wire.

It has been reported that the *Matsuyama-maru*, like *Kuisow*, has met with a severe accident when about two hundred miles from Ujima. It is stated that the ends of the boiler blew out and that there was a considerable loss of life. The steamer was on that occasion carrying troops, and the condition of her boilers had been drawn attention to by the engineer in charge, before the accident. The steamer, we understand, after the explosion, was towed into Kure by an English steamer. What is the amount of damage done, or the loss of life, has yet to be discovered.—*Daily Herald*.

THE PEACE MISSION.

The Japan Government have intimated their willingness to receive the Viceroy Li Hung-chang as an Envoy for peace negotiations, but are determined not to put up with Chinese chicanery in any way. Consequently the authority given to Li has been submitted to them; and the English text of his credentials has been approved of, but exception has been taken to the Chinese text, which was so drawn up as to imply that Japan was anxious to sue for peace and not China. The object of this piece of duplicity is obvious, but Japanese statesmen are not to be caught napping and they will only consent to receive Li when his credentials are proved to be regular in every detail; and to make quite sure that no underhand reservation is made, the Viceroy will be received at Shimonoseki, where his full credentials will be examined, and if everything is proved to be satisfactory to the Japanese Li will be permitted to proceed to Hiroshima for negotiations. We have it on the very best authority that the Japanese will enter into no parleying with Li unless he is prepared, on behalf of the Chinese Government, for the cession of territory amongst other stipulations, and as the Chinese Government will have full knowledge in advance of this, they will have to provide the Viceroy with the proper authority to meet this demand before he leaves for Japan.—*N. C. Daily News*.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on Tuesday, 12th March. Present:—

His Excellency the Governor, Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON, K.C.M.G.

Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, Acting Colonial Secretary.

Hon. A. J. LEACH, Acting Attorney-General.

Hon. A. M. THOMSON, Acting Colonial Treasurer.

Hon. F. A. COOPER, Director of Public Works.

Hon. R. M. RUMSEY, Harbour Master.

Hon. C. P. CHATER.

Hon. HO KAI.

Hon. J. J. KESWICK.

Hon. E. R. BELLISS, C.M.G.

Hon. A. MCCONACHIE.

Mr. A. SETH, Clerk of Councils.

NEW MEMBERS.

The Hon. A. M. THOMSON and the Hon. A. J. LEACH were sworn in on taking their acting appointments.

A RECORD REVENUE.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—I have the honour to lay upon the table the following documents—A letter from the Colonial Secretary to the Harbour Master, a financial statement for 1894, and a statement showing the total revenue and expenditure for 1894. In laying this statement upon the table I should like to call the attention of hon. members of the Council to the fact that the revenue for 1894 amounted to \$2,287,203.32, which I believe is the largest revenue ever collected in this colony—(applause)—and this collection was made notwithstanding the serious epidemic of plague which visited the colony last year. I also lay on the table the report of the Captain Superintendent of Police for 1894.

FINANCIAL MINUTES.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—I have the honour to lay upon the table financial minutes 5 and 6 and to move that they be referred to the Finance Committee, a meeting of which will be held immediately after the Council. I have the honour to bring up the report of the Finance Committee held on the 26th ult. and move its adoption.

Carried.

THE SANITARY BOARD'S BY-LAWS.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—It had been my attention to move to-day the adoption by this Council of certain by-laws made by the Sanitary Board, but a letter has been received from the hon. unofficial member opposite (Hon. J. J. Keswick) requesting that consideration of the by-laws may be deferred, and the Government, in view of this communication, has consented to delay. I am, however, to point out that it is highly important that these by-laws should be adopted and passed with as little delay as possible, as they involve matters of great importance to the health of this colony, and the Government regrets there should be any further delay.

Hon. J. J. KESWICK—I have to thank you for postponing these by-laws for another op-

portunity of considering them. They were delivered to us on Saturday afternoon and the next day being Sunday there was very little time for consideration. My reason for asking for the postponement of their consideration is that there are several clauses in them which I am satisfied on further consideration it would be necessary to alter. (Applause).

CARRIAGE OF DEADLY WEAPONS.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL is moving the first reading of a Bill entitled "An Ordinance to amend and consolidate the law relating to the carriage and possession of deadly weapons," said that the Bill was a consolidation Ordinance of the law at present in force with regard to the carriage of arms with certain new matter which was printed in italics. That matter sought to give effect to some of the recommendations of a Committee that had been appointed to consider what additional powers could be conferred on the Government for the suppression of riots, political combinations, and interruptions and disturbances of the public peace.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—I beg to second.
Carried.

THE REPEAL OF ORDINANCES.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the first reading of a bill entitled "An Ordinance to declare the effect of Ordinances repealing others." The subject, he said, was a dry one, and the object was shortly to pass a general enactment as to the effect of the repeals which would render it unnecessary for the Government in drafting other Bills to take into consideration the effect of these repeals. Sometimes nice questions arose when an Ordinance which was repealed other ordinance.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.
Carried.

ADJOURNMENT.

HIS EXCELLENCY—The Council now resolves itself into Finance Committee. After what has fallen from the Acting Colonial Secretary with regard to the by-laws, I propose that we adjourn until Wednesday week, the 20th inst.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The Finance Committee met immediately after the Council meeting, the Acting Colonial Secretary presiding.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—The first minute I have to bring before the Committee is one in which the Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of \$800,000, being compensation to the owners and other persons having any right or interest in the lots of land within the resumed area of Taipingshan, interest on the above from 1st June, 1894, to date of payment at 7 per cent., and costs awarded against the Crown by the Board of Arbitrators under the Taipingshan Resumption Ordinance, 1894. This matter is so well known to members of the Council that I do not think it is necessary for me to give any explanation with regard to it. The Ordinance under which this money was to be paid was duly considered in the Legislative Council and was passed by the Council. The Arbitration under the Ordinance has taken place and it has been a matter which has been noticed publicly in the papers, and the awards have also been published; so, as I have already said, I do not think it is necessary to enter into details. If there are any questions which members of the Committee wish to ask I shall be very pleased to answer them.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER—I second that.

Hon. C. P. CHATER—I have no objection to the vote at all, but I should like to know if the Government has made up its mind as to what is going to be done with the resumed property. We are going to vote \$800,000 and I should like to be informed if you are in a position to give me the information as to what is the intention of the Government in this matter—how they intend to deal with the property resumed.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—Although the question asked does not bear exactly upon this point it is the desire of the Government to give all the information it possesses, and I may say with regard to that matter that the Director of Public Works has almost completed a scheme which he proposes in regard to the resumed area; and that report when it is in the hands of Government will be communicated to the unofficial members. The report is not yet completed, but it is approaching completion, and, as

I have said, unofficial members will be given copies of the report. I hope you will consider that satisfactory.

Hon. E. R. BELILIOS—Apparently we have funds to vote this sum. Will you kindly tell us what purse it comes out of?

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—It will come out of only one purse of course—the rate-payers' pocket. It is proposed to pay the money out of the balances and later on, if it is found necessary, to have an overdraft on the Crown Agents, but the Treasurer will inform you more in detail perhaps than I am able to tell you.

The COLONIAL TREASURER—The present balance is about \$450,000, and the remaining \$350,000 it is proposed to pay off by an overdraft on the Crown Agents, which will be outstanding at the most only two years. It is hoped to recoup it by the re-sale of land within the resumed area, and it is expected there will be a surplus at the end of the current year of revenue over expenditure. The revenue returns for January and February are very satisfactory. (Applause).

Hon. HO KAI—Is it proposed to pay the claims at once?

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—It is.

Hon. HO KAI—Immediately?

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—Immediately.

Hon. HO KAI—And the balance we have in hand is \$450,000?

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—It is.

Hon. E. R. BELILIOS—There will be no loan raised to pay this money?

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—No; the present intention is to raise no loan.

Hon. C. P. CHATER—Hear, hear.

The vote was then passed.

THE NEW CENTRAL MARKET.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—The next minute I have to bring before you is one in which the Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of \$270, being salary of an overseer at the New Central Market, from 1st April next, at \$30 per month. I may mention that this is a new appointment, and it is one recommended by the Sanitary Board. They considered it was absolutely necessary that there should be an overseer at the new Central Market in order to keep an outlook on what was going on, in addition to the inspectors, who will not be allowed to spend the whole of their time in the markets.

Hon. J. J. KESWICK—When will the market be opened?

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—I hope it will be ready next month.

Hon. A. MCCONACHIE—Will he be a native?

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—The Sanitary Board has recommended the appointment of a Portuguese for the post. It is proposed that Mr. Souza, who has been interpreter to the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon for two years, should be promoted. Of course, if he is promoted it will be necessary to fill up the vacancy caused by the promotion.

The vote was recommended.

AN UNFOUNDED CHARGE AGAINST THE HARBOUR DEPARTMENT.

The following letter from the Acting Colonial Secretary to the Harbour Master relative to the alleged existence of corruption in the Harbour department was laid before the Legislative Council on Tuesday:—

Colonial Secretary's Office.
Hongkong, 27th February, 1895.

Sir,—With reference to paragraph 12, of page 56, of the Evidence appended to the Report of the Refrenchment Committee, I am directed to inform you that Mr. Thomson denies the accuracy of the words therein attributed to him by the Chairman but admits having made a confidential statement before the Emigration Committee to the effect that from current reports amongst the Chinese, of which he, as Acting Registrar General, was informed confidentially, there was a certain amount of reason to believe that corruption existed in the passing of emigrants.

As, however, no proof appears to be forthcoming in support of the accuracy of such rumours, I am to state that the Government cannot place any credence therein, and I am to express regret that by inadvertence publicity was given to what appeared to be a charge of corruption, but which, on investigation, is found to be the repetition of mere rumours unsupported by a vestige of evidence.

I am to add that this letter will be laid on the table at the next meeting of the Legislative Council.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

The Honourable the Harbour Master.

The following is the passage in the minutes of evidence to which the letter refers, the question being put by Mr. Justice Acland and the answer given by the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart:—

Q.—Last year there was a commission composed of Dr. Ho Kai, Mr. Keswick, the Acting Registrar General, and myself appointed to report on the emigration laws and it was then mentioned by Mr. Thomson, who was holding the office of Registrar General, that he had great reason for believing that there was a good deal of corruption on the part of the men who were passing the emigrants, that they received heavy bribes in order to pass men who were never going on board. Have you heard of that?

A.—Though I have not been told the names of the officers, I have heard that corruption exists. I think it is desirable that the matter should be under the direct supervision of an officer acquainted with Chinese. I do not wish for a moment to throw any reflection on the supervision of the Harbour Master, but I regard it as impossible for an officer unacquainted with Chinese to properly supervise the matter. In the Straits Settlements, I may mention, the passing of emigrants is under the Protector of Chinese and the Harbour Master, or Master Attendant as he is called there, has nothing whatever to do with it.

THE COLONY'S FINANCES.

The statement of revenue and expenditure for 1894 was laid before the Legislative Council on Tuesday. The total revenue was \$2,237,203 and the expenditure \$2,299,093, exclusive of \$236,810 for public work—extraordinary chargeable against the 1893 loan. The following financial statement is also given:—

LOAN ACCOUNT.

Dr.	\$ s. d.
To inscribed stock loan at 3½ per cent. interest, to be paid off on the 15th April, 1913	343,199.15.1
Cr.	

Sinking fund.—Nil.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, ON THE 31st DECEMBER 1894.

ASSETS.	\$	c.
Subsidiary coins	5,000.00	
Deposit in Bank	150,000.00	
Balance in Bank at current account	3,8,836.93	
Deposit in England at call	1,157,350.99	
Balance in hands of Crown Agents	26,808.73	
Subsidiary coins in transit	200,000.00	
Arrears of taxes	15,188.22	
Arrears of Crown rent	66,460.04	
Advances to be recovered	30,267.81	
	\$2,009,912.78	

LIABILITIES.	\$	c.
Drafts drawn by the Crown Agents, in transit	400,000.00	
Deposits not available	5,977.43	
Praya Reclamation deposit account	100,000.00	
Refund of taxes	4,000.00	
Officers' remittances, not yet paid	2,480.25	
Money orders, not yet paid	5,941.72	
Amount due to Post Office,—London, Italy, France, &c.	40,500.00	
Pensions due to Civil officers	16,000.00	
Pensions due to ex-Police constables	6,400.00	
Total liabilities	\$591,299.40	
Balance *	1,423,613.33	
	\$2,009,912.78	

* Of which \$979,974.33 represents unexpended balance of 1893 loan of £200,000.

N. G. MITCHELL-INNES,
Colonial Treasurer.
Treasury, Hongkong, 28th February, 1895.

The Chinese steamer *Cass* on her arrival at Foochow from the Pescadores on the 20th ult. reported that on the 18th, whilst the Telegraph steamer *Feecheu* was repairing the Formosa-Pescadores cable, she sighted a Japanese man-of-war, which gave chase to her, but retreated on her entering the fortified port of Makong, at the Pescadores.

range. The pay—in dollars—has also been again increased; and men of good character get "Home leave" every five years and passage paid. The result is that the force has become popular. Of the 12 Inspectors—including the Chief Inspector—no less than 9 have upwards of 20 years' service. Of the 12 Sergeants no less than 9 have upwards of 12 years' service; one has served 22 years. These facts speak for themselves. There is one thing I should like to say. If at any time any of you have considered that I have dealt a little harshly with you, that I have refused you anything it was in my power, as Acting Captain Superintendent or Deputy Superintendent to grant, rest assured it has never been done unkindly. I have looked upon the Police Force as public property and on myself as one of the custodians of that property, and I have always striven to do my best for the good of the service in the interest of the public whose servant I am. (Applause) I have now to express to the officers my sincere thanks for the manner in which they have always so loyally assisted me in carrying on the duties of the Department. I have only to add my sincere hope that as long as any of you remain in the Force, you will, whatever your rank may be, do your very best to maintain the present popularity, the present good name of the Force to which during the last twenty-eight years I have had the honour to belong (applause).

Mr. F. H. May, Captain Superintendent, afterwards entertained the Inspectors to tiffin to take farewell of Mr. Horspool, Deputy Superintendent, and Mr. Mathieson, Chief Inspector.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION.

The Photographic Exhibition in the room of the Odd Volumes Society was opened to the public on Saturday. The exhibition, as is doubtless well known, was arranged for the purpose of making a selection of works which are to form part of the special exhibition of photography to be held at the Imperial Institute next May. A short time ago the Executive Council of the Institute sent out invitations all over the world for examples of photography in its application to the arts, sciences, and industries, and Hongkong received its invitation through Mr. C. H. Gale, who is a member of the Institute, and he made arrangements whereby photographers could send their specimens to the Odd Volumes Society's room. A committee was formed to make selections from the collection, and the best will be sent to the Imperial Institute in due course. Although both amateurs and professionals were asked to contribute it is a striking fact that only one professional—Mr. Griffith—has thought it worth while to take an active part in the movement. Amateur photographers are an ardent class; they love their work, and take a special pride in obtaining the very best results, and, when an opportunity affords, in exhibiting their most interesting pictures. In Hongkong there are, unfortunately, comparatively few amateur photographers. This is rather a pity, because the natural advantages of the colony for camera work are really excellent. The light is sharp and clear, and there is ample scope for the use of the lens in the many exquisite spots in and about the island; indeed more charming scenery one could not wish for. But of course there are one or two drawbacks. The art—or as some people prefer to call it, the hobby—is more expensive to practise here than at home, and the climate does not deal kindly with the printing paper. But the immense advantages certainly outweigh the trifling disadvantages, and for this reason we should like to see a stronger development of amateur photography in the colony. Why not have an annual exhibition in order to awaken a broader interest in this fascinating study?

We had an opportunity of inspecting the exhibition on Friday and it is impossible to speak in other than high terms of admiration of it. Altogether there are 124 exhibits, and these have been sent in by twelve gentlemen. Mr. Gale, we think, must credit himself with the best display. His bromide pictures are charming. One, "After the storm," is a particularly fine work taken in the harbour after sunset, and the scene is most imposing. He also shows two photographs of Cape d'Aguilar which are very fine specimens, while another, "My Dogs," is a very happy production. Mr. Gale exhibits the only clond picture in the display, and it is undoubtedly one of the best we have seen. Mr. B. Coughtrie is well represented, his pho-

tograph of Lyeemoon Pass in the evening being a beautifully quiet study, and presenting almost the appearance of an etching. His "Evening light on the hills" is an enchanting picture, the effect of the lowering sun's rays on the beautifully shaped heights being truly artistic. "Abadeen Valley," also by Mr. Coughtrie, is very pretty, while a wedding party—a snapshot—forms a picturesquely motley group. Mr. W. H. Wickham, in addition to showing a number of snapshots taken at the races, contributes a photograph of Wong-nei-chong, which is a perfect picture, and one, entitled "Sunset on the river," shows the charming effect of the dimming light on the water. Mr. A. Hill sends sixteen quarter plate snapshots taken on the racecourse, and Dr. Schroter and Dr. Schrameier, both of Canton, show two or three exceedingly fine views. The Photographic Department of the Royal Engineers is represented by four photographs illustrative of the damage done to matchlocks at Kowloon, and Mr. Griffith shows groups of Volunteers. Dr. Gerlach has two very good views of the cemetery, and other gentlemen have sent photographs of considerable merit.

ILLLEGAL SEIZURE OF OPIUM AT CANTON.

AN OLD CLAIM STILL UNSETTLED.

The following petition has been forwarded to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs by Mr. D. S. Futtakia:—

To the Right Honourable the Earl of Kimberley, K.G., Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Downing Street, London, S.W.

The Humble Petition of Dadaboy Sorabjee Futtakia, of Canton, Merchant,

Sheweth:—

1.—That your petitioner is a Parsee, native of India, and British subject, residing and trading at Canton as a merchant, and that he and his predecessors in their mercantile pursuits have had business connections in that city for over fifty years.

2.—That owing to certain confiscations made by the Chinese lekin authorities of Canton, under circumstances narrated below, of four chests of Indian opium imported by your petitioner into that port in the year 1885, your petitioner has been a sufferer to the extent of their value, as also to the extent of the consequences incidental to the non-restoration of his property or its equivalent up to date, and that therefore your petitioner now humbly seeks and prays that your Lordship may be pleased, after considering the merits of his case, to take such measures as may seem just and adequate to your Lordship for the vindication of your petitioner's rights.

3.—That your petitioner in the ordinary course of his business ordered out from Hongkong in the aforesaid year 1885, amongst others, four chests of Patna opium—two in June and two in October of that year, and that he duly passed and paid tariff duty on these chests at the Custom-house at Canton in conformity with the rules and regulations jointly fixed and passed by the British and Chinese authorities for that purpose.

4.—That notwithstanding the conformity of your petitioner to all the requisite rules and regulations as established by the Customs, and notwithstanding your petitioner having had due cognizance of the chests taken at the Custom-house by payment of the necessary duty, your petitioner was forcibly deprived of the possession of these chests, within the settled area of exemption from lekin, whilst they were being conveyed to his hong after their removal from Customs, by persons in the employ of the then lekin farmer, on the 29th day of June and on the 3rd day of October, 1885, respectively, on the ground that no lekin duty had been paid thereon.

5.—That your petitioner, being a foreign merchant and British subject, submitted to the lekin authorities, as he now begs to submit to your Lordship, that, as such, under section 3 of the Chefoo Convention of 1876, your petitioner was exempted from the payment of lekin duty on opium imported by him and that on the several occasions he had previously imported opium into Canton in the regular course of his trade he was invariably and without any exception not held liable for lekin, and that on all those occasions he was allowed to import opium into Canton without let or hindrance on the payment

merely of Custom-house duties on such opium and on his going through the prescribed Custom-house formalities, the terms of the said Convention according to clause 3, section 3, being that British merchants bringing opium into parts open to trade will be obliged to have it taken cognizance of by the Customs and deposited in bond, either in a warehouse or receiving bulk, until such time as there is a sale for it. The importer will then pay the tariff duty upon it, and the purchasers, that is to say, the Chinese purchasers virtually, the lekin.

6.—That in consequence of the confiscations effected your petitioner personally attended each time immediately after the occasions of seizures at the British Consulate, and set forth before Her Majesty's Consul then officiating, namely, before Mr. Gardner, the particulars as to the time when, the place where, and as to persons under whose supervision and guidance the seizures were effected; and that subsequently on H.M. Consul putting himself in communication with the Chinese authorities on the subject, inquiries were held upon the said seizures, terminating in decisions by the Chinese Prefect adverse to your petitioner, but your petitioner has reason to believe not acquiesced in and agreed to by the said Consul, Mr. Gardner.

7.—That in representations attached herewith, marked G and H, made by your petitioner to Her Majesty's Minister at Peking, first in 1887 and latterly in December, 1892, your petitioner has given in *extenso* the details referred to of the two seizures, and consequently your petitioner deems it unnecessary to recapitulate them here, but it at the same time your petitioner cannot help requesting your Lordship's consideration to the following particulars, as it was alleged at the inquiries by the Chinese Prefect that the opium seized was smuggled and surreptitiously taken by your petitioner, and that the seizures were made not in broad daylight but at night time. In connection with these two points your Lordship's attention is particularly requested to the unimpeachable testimony, herewith attached marked A, of Mr. Frank Duncan, one of the employés of the lekin farmer himself, who in his declaration sworn to before the Registrar of the Supreme Court of Hongkong on the 11th of November, 1885, has openly avowed with reference to the first seizure in June, 1885—

1.—First: That the said opium was seized in pursuance of a letter now in possession of H.M. Consul at Canton received by Mr. Sayers, another employé of the lekin farmer, in which it was enjoined by the farmer that the opium was to be absolutely seized in the following terms:—"I herewith send you half-dozen good soldiers, and whenever Caranji's opium go over please seize it, and also other Parsees so we must do some duty to-day—be quick, the steamer I think is in Have some spunk to-day and also ben Monday" (vide B).

2.—Secondly: That the lekin runners had a perfect view of the petitioner's boat, and that when he, Mr. Duncan, in conjunction with other runners, boarded her the time was 4.30 p.m., and that the opium found in her was "in ordinary opium chests, not in any way concealed."

With reference to the latter seizure in October, 1885, Mr. John Murray Nelson, also an employé of the lekin farmer, in a declaration (vide D) sworn to before Mr. Henry Cockburn, British Pro-Consul at Canton, plainly affirmed as follows:—

"On one day about the beginning of October, the 3rd or 4th I think, I was alongside the Custom-house in a sampan in order to see where opium imported by Parsees was taken to. I saw Mr. Futtakia bring some opium from the steamer *Powan* to the Custom-house; I then saw him leave the Custom-house in a sampan and go straight over to his hong in Honam. Two lekin boats intercepted his boat before he reached the steps of his jetty. I motioned to them to go back; I saw the lekin runners go on board Mr. Futtakia's boat. I then went straight down to the Yung Tung steam launch, on which Sayers was, and told him where the seizure had been made and that there was no right to seize the opium there. Sayers said it was none of his seizure and that he washed his hands of it. The opium was taken on shore there by the lekin people. The chests were opened and 18 balls of smuggled opium, which were seized

close to the station that morning from a Chinaman, were mixed up with the opium which had been seized, and all sent to the yamen after some of the balls of Mr. Futtakis's opium had been taken out."

8.—That your petitioner begs to submit, after referring particularly to the principal point in the lekin farmer's letter to Mr. Sayers, in which that gentleman was enjoined to anyhow seize the opium of the Parsees, that there could hardly be any motive on the part of the petitioner to carry over the chests in a surreptitious manner, inasmuch as he being a foreigner and British subject was in virtue thereof exempted from any liability for lekin, and that there was hardly any circumstance, as will readily be seen from Mr. Duncan's and Mr. Nelson's declarations, that could induce the belief that your petitioner in taking over the chests in the manner he had done was acting in an unusual or surreptitious manner for avoiding lekin.

9.—That in pertinence to these observations your petitioner likewise requests your Lordship's attention to a certified copy of a very important and significant report made by Mr. George Brown, Vice-Consul, to Mr. Frater, the Consul, after an interview Mr. Brown had with the prime mover, Mr. Chan Wei Ting, in the matter of both seizures. This report, marked F, thoroughly indicates the evasiveness and unwillingness of Mr. Chan Wei Ting to convey to Mr. Brown the facts connected with the seizures of petitioner's opium, although he undertook, as reported by Mr. Brown, to be frank with him, and as Mr. Brown puts it "with a burst of perhaps unconscious veracity to tell more than the truth."

10.—That your petitioner being informed that these particulars of the matter and the proceedings at the Prefect's referred to herein were forwarded by H.M. Consul at Canton to the British Embassy at Peking, your petitioner sent up his first representation there to Her Majesty's then Minister, H.E. Sir John Walsham, in June, 1887, and again he sent up another to the same Minister in June, 1889, but your petitioner regrets that though his importunities were unremitting for a reply and a decision, none was vouchsafed to him for reasons that he was never informed of. So late as in November of 1891 your petitioner was kindly informed by the acting Consul-General, Mr. Watters, thus:—

"In reply I am sorry to have to state that H. M. Minister at Peking has not sent any reply to my representation on the subject of the arrest of your opium in 1886. I tried to induce the Viceroy to reopen the question, but he refused to do so."

Again in April of 1892 your petitioner was informed as follows by Mr. Watters, in reply to a further request made by him for a reminder of his case to Peking:—

"I am in receipt of your letter of to-day and regret to have to state in reply I have not received any answer from H.M. Minister. It will give me pleasure, however, to remind him of your claim at an early date."

11.—That your petitioner cannot but regret here that, owing to the absence of any reply or decision from H.E. Sir John Walsham, your petitioner was put to great disadvantage and further loss, and that owing to the long period that had been allowed by him to pass without any movement in the matter, your petitioner was most grievously deprived of the opportunities of representing the facts of his case to your Lordship's predecessors at that time in office, and praying for that redress which he might have been entitled to on a due representation of those facts betimes and at the proper moment.

12.—That your petitioner in consequence had again to represent his case before Her Majesty's present Minister at Peking H.E. Mr. N. R. O'Connor, on the 23rd of December, 1892, as per copy of petition attached herewith marked H, and your petitioner whilst stating this circumstance cannot but appreciate and most thankfully acknowledge the consideration and attention your petitioner's case has received since then from His Excellency. It was simply owing to His Excellency's commending your petitioner's case to the Ministers of the Tsung-li yamen for an equitable treatment that even after the lapse of so many as well nigh nine years a recognition, though not complete, of his claim has been made by the Chinese authorities by their conveying to him, through Her Majesty's Acting Consul, Mr. F. S. A. Bourne, an offer of \$300 in full satisfaction of his claim. The offer

is embodied in a letter addressed by H.E. the Viceroy Li to Mr. Bourne on the 28th October, 1893, a certified translation of which is herewith annexed, marked L, for your Lordship's information.

13.—But your petitioner regrets that, though grateful for this attempt at partial reparation, the offer made is quite inadequate and insufficient for the loss that he has sustained and for the hardship that has entailed upon him thereby.

14.—That your petitioner in consequence most respectfully and earnestly entreats your Lordship that in vindication of the policy underlying and the principles involved in the facts of his case as narrated herein and further disclosed by the correspondence attached, as likewise in reparation of losses sustained by him by what he submits, was an illegal violation and infringement of the treaty rights of a British subject, your Lordship will be pleased to take such adequate measures as may secure your petitioner that justice that may be due to him on the merits of his case. The value of the opium the petitioner has been deprived of amounts to dollars 2,844.65, inclusive of duty paid at the Custom-house, but exclusive of the loss in interest accruing on the amount since 1835, and other charges incidental to non-restitution of his property up till now. Including interest, the total loss to your petitioner amounts to \$5,851.24, as per copies of invoices and memo. of accounts herewith attached, marked I, J., & K respectively.

Your petitioner therefore humbly prays that your Lordship may be pleased to consider your petitioner's case and take such steps as may seem just and expedient to your Lordship for the recovery by your petitioner of the aforesaid amount of his loss, viz., \$5,851.24 and charges incurred.

And your petitioner will ever pray, &c., &c.

Dated this 1st day of March, 1895.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

The ninth anniversary of the Missions to Seamen Hongkong branch of the above Society was held on Friday evening at the Seamen's Reading Room (Sailors' Home). The Chair was occupied by the Chaplain, Rev. A. G. Goldsmith. The report shows that 3,153 members have been enrolled since the commencement of the Society.

A musical programme was rendered by the Temperance choir, with the assistance of Mrs. Dyer Ball and Mrs. Boxshall, who both sang solos.

Mr. J. Dyer Ball addressed the meeting and alluded with great force to the fact that by medical and other statistics it is shown that 52,000 persons die annually in the British Isles solely through alcoholic poisoning or otherwise through the influence of drink. He urged the need of such societies as this, where men were united in a common object and thus were so much stronger and better able to support each other.

Lieutenant Risk, R.N., also gave an interesting address, which was very attentively listened to. In the course of his remarks he said—When I joined the navy twenty-five years ago it was a very hard thing to become a member of a Temperance Society, but now a man is not hunted down or thought a poor lot because he is a teetotaler. This shows that temperance men can hold their own and that their cause is advancing. Temperance is better for health, as is shown by the fact that insurance societies accept teetotal lives on better terms than even those of moderate drinkers. It does not interfere with good fellowship—good fellowship of a wholesome kind. There are three classes of drinkers; first, the man who cannot avoid taking too much; secondly, the man who sometimes may exceed, but who generally can stop when he has had enough; and thirdly, the truly moderate drinker, who never takes in excess. Undoubtedly the first should abstain for every reason. The second ought to consider the matter seriously, and if he did so would see that total abstinence is the wisest course. The third, though not under any necessity for himself, may yet become an abstainer for the sake of those around him who are not capable of looking after themselves.

Mr. Walter Tarn (hon. lay helper) thanked the speakers.

The meeting closed with a hymn and the benediction.

Colonel Milne, R.M.A., Capt. Bower, Surgeon Major James, and Capt. Elliot, U.S.N., left Tientsin for Peking on the 10th ult.

THE HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The twenty-sixth annual meeting of shareholders in this Company was held on Saturday, at noon, in the offices of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co. (General Managers). The Hon. J. J. Keswick presided and there were also present Hon. C. P. Chater, Messrs. J. S. Moses, S. G. Bird, C. J. Holliday, and J. H. Lewis (Consulting Committee), G. T. Veitch (Secretary), Hon. A. McConachie, Messrs. E. F. Alford, J. D. Humphreys, J. C. Peter, B. Byromjee, J. M. G. Pereira, J. M. E. Machado, H. Humphreys, Ho Tung, C. S. Taylor, K. McK. Ross, V. H. Deacon, A. G. Morris, R. C. Wilcox, and W. Parlane.

The SECRETARY read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—The report and accounts having been in your hands for some days, with your permission we will take them as read. In future I hope we may be able to present the accounts to you earlier, as the closing of agencies in the United Kingdom will now obviate the necessity of waiting a considerable time after the close of the year for accounts from London. All liability in connection with the British agencies ceased on the 31st December last. Our agents in London, Messrs. Matheson and Co., took an enormous amount of trouble in connection with the establishment of these agencies, and though they are naturally disappointed their efforts did not meet with the success which we at first anticipated, they have, in winding up the business of the Company, given every care and attention to our interests and succeeded in closing earlier than we could have expected, and our thanks are due them for all they have done. Turning to the accounts, I regret we are unable to give a dividend for 1893 equal to that of 1892, for what with the reductions in rates in every direction and an increase in the number of fires our profits for 1893 were greatly diminished, as you will have noticed from the accounts. 1894 also was an unfortunate year for us, as after debiting some heavy losses at several of our agencies the credit balance is reduced to \$167,223.19 against \$238,450.47 the previous year. From this balance have to be deducted claims in hand amounting to \$52,000, so that practically speaking we have not more than a lakh of dollars. We trust, however, that any further losses may be light under 1894 policies, and that we may not have to make a call on the reserve fund to provide an equal dividend to the present. The outlook for the future is, I think, distinctly better than it has been for some time past. Fire insurance companies have found that the low rates which have ruled for some time past resulted in heavy losses, and I am glad to note movements in various directions for increases in rates. We are now working on the lines of nine years ago and I feel confident that if shareholders will give us their loyal support there is a brighter future before this Company. I shall be very pleased to answer any questions any shareholder may put to me before moving the adoption of the report and statement of accounts.

No questions were asked, and the CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. J. D. HUMPHREYS—I beg leave to second the adoption of the report and statement of accounts as presented to you.

Carried.

The Hon. A. MCCONACHIE—I beg to propose that the retiring Committee—the Hon. C. P. Chater, Messrs. Moses, Bird, Holliday, and Lewis—be re-elected.

Mr. J. C. PETER seconded.

Carried.

Mr. BYROMJEE moved and Mr. MACHADO seconded the re-election as auditors of Messrs. Fullerton Henderson and A. Coxon.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, that concludes the business of the meeting and I am very much obliged to you for your attendance. Dividend warrants will be ready on Monday next.

At Shanghai on the morning of the 3rd inst., shortly before half-past seven o'clock, fire broke out in Tsungming Road, on the west side of North Szechuen Road, and six houses were burnt out, the flames being confined to one block. Wong Ah-yen, a young Cantonese girl aged 16 years, who was asleep in one of the houses, was burned to death.

SUPREME COURT.

12th March.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR MR. W. M. GOODMAN,
ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE.

THE AFFAIRS OF MR. S. I. DANBY.

Solomon Isaac Danby, sharebroker, petitioned in bankruptcy to have a receiving order made by his Lordship.

Mr. G. J. Phillippo represented the petitioner, and Mr. H. L. Denny appeared for creditors and opposed the application.

Mr. Phillippo said that the applicant held promissory notes for large sums.

His Lordship—If you had had a couple of thousand dollars in hard cash I would have seen my way clearly. Is the promissory note likely to be met in full?

Mr. Phillippo—The promissory notes are at present in the possession of Mr. Wilkinson. They were given by one Moosdeen to Mr. Danby.

Mr. Denny—I understand that the man who gave the promissory notes has left the colony.

Mr. Phillippo—He might be able to make some arrangements to meet these liabilities. He is doing his best now and all he wishes at present is the protection of the Court, so that he may endeavour to do his best. I think under the circumstances, as he has made a clean breast of all his liabilities, I should ask your Lordship to grant the protection of the Court, not only for Mr. Danby's own benefit, but for the benefit of his creditors. He has had a good business here, and I have no doubt if he is allowed to continue his business he will be able to meet these demands made upon him.

His Lordship—I don't at all feel inclined to make the order. The only doubt I have is as to whether I should appoint an interim receiver to see if the petitioner has any assets of value or not.

Mr. Phillippo—That has been the practice hitherto.

His Lordship—I should do so in the case of a shop or business going on. What is the due date of that note you speak of?

Mr. Phillippo—One has already become due.

Mr. Denny—I understand the debtor left the colony in November.

Mr. Phillippo—I am informed the whole amount became due a month ago and has not been realised. Of course, all we wish is that you will grant an order, and Mr. Danby will do his best. He has a good business here. He has made a clean breast of the state of affairs, and I think if he has a fair chance of being able to realise what is due to him and of continuing his business he will be able in some way to liquidate the claims against him.

His Lordship—I will adjourn the petition for a week. Mr. Danby is the proper person to realise his note, if he can; if it is not a bad debt, let him get his assets and he will have something substantial in his pocket to come with before the Court. This is a petition filed by Mr. Solomon Isaac Danby, described in the petition as a share and general broker, asking for a receiving order and an adjudication of bankruptcy. Section 8 of the Bankruptcy Ordinance of 1891 has been most usefully amended by sect. 5 of Ordinance 6 of 1892 by the addition of this proviso:—"Provided that it shall be lawful in the discretion of the Court to refuse the Order (i.e., the Receiving Order) unless satisfied that there are or will be substantial assets for division among the creditors." It is useless to appoint a Receiver unless he has or will have something substantial to receive. There have been, in years past, many instances of people filing a petition simply to checkmate an importunate creditor. I do not know the circumstances in this case, but before I make an order I shall require some evidence to satisfy me that there will be substantial assets to divide among the creditors. I will adjourn the application for a week to enable such evidence to be produced, if it is possible to produce it in this case. If it is possible this promissory note can be realised and the proceeds produced as a substantial asset.

Mr. Phillippo—There is an execution already issued against Mr. Danby. Will the Court grant protection for one week? He wants all the time he can get.

His Lordship—Is that another action? No, I think I shall make no order in the meantime.

Knowing as they now do the provisions of the amending Act of 1892, I think parties ought to come before the Court provided with proper evidence, an affidavit or something else, that there are substantial assets.

Mr. Phillippo—Then you will grant protection for a week, because if Mr. Danby is taken in execution it will be utterly impossible for him to try to assist himself.

His Lordship—What is the amount of the execution?

Mr. Phillippo—\$725.

His Lordship—And what is the amount of the promissory note?

Mr. Phillippo—\$903.

His Lordship—Well, if the promissory note is a good one, why does not he realise it? You are dangling it before the Court as a substantial asset. Why not realise it and pay the man? I cannot grant protection. I will adjourn the case for a week.

DISCHARGE OF A BANKRUPT.

Mr. Hahn appeared in person to apply for his discharge.

His Lordship—Well, Mr. Hahn, I suppose you have nothing further to add to the facts in the files. The Receiver has furnished me with a report. I have gone carefully through the file and into the proceedings in this case, and this is my decision. This is an application under section 27 of the Bankruptcy Ordinance of 1891 by Ferdinand Albert Carl Hahn for his discharge. It appears from the report of the trustee that the bankrupt filed his petition on the 18th April, 1893, and was adjudicated bankrupt on 7th July following. The only dividend is one of 6.31 per cent. declared on 23rd May last, when unsecured debts due from the bankrupt, proved and admitted, amounted to \$7,876. The sums realized from the stock-in-trade, book debts, and a life policy amounted, after deducting expenses, to \$496.93. The rent of the shop and premises occupied by the bankrupt was four months and upwards in arrear at the date of his filing his petition, and the sum of \$715 has been paid on this account to the landlords, who were fully secured. In my opinion the bankrupt should have filed his petition sooner, and should not have continued to trade after he knew, or at least had means of knowing, himself to be insolvent. That fact, as well as the smallness of the dividend paid, amounting to only 6.31 per cent., precludes me from granting an immediate discharge. The bankrupt afforded the trustee every facility and assistance he could in winding up his affairs, and no objection is made to his application. It will not, therefore, be necessary for me in this case to resort to the powers conferred by section 27, sub-section (3), of refusing a discharge, nor to those enabling me to grant an order subject to conditions as to any earnings or income which may hereafter become due to the bankrupt. On the whole the course which will, I think, meet the justice of the case is to grant an order of discharge, but to suspend its operation for a period of six months, and that is the order I accordingly make.

MESSRS. BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE
AND THE PUBLIC WORKS
DEPARTMENT.

The following further correspondence has passed between Messrs. Butterfield & Swire and the Government:

Colonial Secretary's Office,
4th March, 1895.

Gentlemen,—I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th ultimo, and of your further letters of the 9th and 18th ultimo, and in reply to inform you that, while regretting that several contraventions on your part of the Building Ordinance in force in this colony should have rendered action on the part of the Director of Public Works necessary, His Excellency cannot in any way blame that department for having issued summonses to enforce the penalties attached by law to such contraventions.

2.—The Government does not concur in the view expressed in your letter of the 18th February that the Building Ordinance is "purposeless." Its object, with regard to the particular matters complained of, is to prevent illegal and unauthorised encroachments upon the foreshore, which is the property of the Crown, and to require, in the public interest, notice to be given and plans to be submitted for

approval before new buildings or works are commenced.

3.—You must be aware that it has been necessary on previous occasions for the Public Works Department to call your attention to omissions to furnish plans required by law, and although you state that the Building Ordinance was "mainly passed to meet the delinquencies of natives" the Government is not aware of any distinction drawn by the Ordinance between contraventions of its provisions by Europeans and contraventions by other people.

The law equally requires obedience from all and it is especially desirable that gentlemen of position and influence should set a good example in complying with that requirement.

4.—It is to be regretted that an alternative of imprisonment in case of non-payment of fines should have formed part of the Magistrate's original adjudication, as the conjoint operation of sections 39 and 42 of the Magistrates Ordinance would indicate that where a fine is not paid and the issue of a distress warrant is not expedient, imprisonment should only be resorted to in case no sufficient goods can be found. But the Magistrate having without any such "direction" as you suggest reviewed his decision under section 97 of the Magistrates Ordinance and having omitted the alternative in question, the Government see no occasion to interfere.

5.—In view of the fact that the Magistrate gave notice on the 8th February of his intention to review the case the publication in the Press on the 9th February of your letter while the matter was *sub judice* would appear open to criticism.

6.—As section 77 of Ordinance 15 of 1889 enacts that every building or work whatsoever commenced in contravention of that Ordinance shall be deemed for the purposes of the Ordinance a "nuisance" and as section 85 renders everyone committing a "nuisance" as defined in section 77 liable to a fine not exceeding \$100, it would appear evident that you incurred the liability to that maximum penalty by commencing works in contravention of the requirements of section 69.

It is, therefore, difficult to follow your statement that you were unjustly and erroneously fined.

It is usual either to attend a summons personally or at least by a legal representative and it is usual for persons subpoenaed to attend in compliance with their subpoenas, for in adjusting the fine a Magistrate may well require to hear some evidence even if the party summoned should enter a plea of "technically guilty." The forbearance shown by the Magistrate in respect of these omissions should, it would seem, acquit him of any personal feeling in the matter.

7.—Where a party is dissatisfied with the Magistrate's decision it is usual either to ask for a rehearing or to appeal.

It was quite open to you under section 97 to have the case "reopened and reheard" when the Magistrate gave notice of his intention to review his decision. That is, presumably, the reason why witnesses were summoned to appear on the occasion of the review by the Magistrate of his adjudication.

8.—In conclusion, I am directed to point out that the usual methods for correcting any erroneous decision of a Magistrate are open to all and that it is ordinarily preferable to resort to them in the first instance rather than to address *ex parte* letters to the public Press endeavouring to hold up to public animadversion the officers who put the law in motion, the Magistrate, and the law he is called upon to administer; especially as it is obviously undesirable for a Magistrate to reply to such letters through the same medium.—I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Hongkong, 7th March, 1895.

Sir,—We have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 401 of the 4th March in answer to ours of the 8th, 9th, and 18th ultimo and in reply beg to point out that while H.E. the Governor may not be in a position to censure or blame the Public Works Department for their action in the past in causing summonses to be issued without notice, to enforce the provisions of the Building Ordinance, it is certainly in his power to give directions that the officers of that department shall not take legal proceedings without first obtaining the advice of the Attorney-General or Crown Solicitor, and without giving the parties offending

an opportunity, by notice, of complying with the law.

We may have been lax in the past in supplying the Public Works Department with notices and plans of our contemplated buildings, which has arisen from the magnitude of the works causing pressure on our staff that it has been impossible to surmount. But that department cannot state we have ever objected to supply them with all the information they demanded when any omission on our part has been pointed out. The Government might further provide for the magisterial bench gentlemen with a competent knowledge of law, and not persons capable of committing the blunder made by Captain Hastings. Neither of the Magistrates have any legal qualifications whatever, and yet they are invested with powers and jurisdiction which no highly trained stipendiary in the city of London possesses. We have never suggested that Captain Hastings was animated by any personal feeling whatever in the course of these proceedings, and we regret that you should in your letter seek to imply that we did so.

We regret that we cannot concur in the opinion expressed in your letter, paragraphs 5 and 8, as to the publication of our letters. An appeal to the public is sometimes, as in this case, much more expeditious and effective, besides being much less expensive, than an appeal or rehearing, and, on suitable occasion, we shall still reserve to ourselves the right to make use of it.

Your remarks in paragraph 6 of your letter are not to the point. Captain Hastings applied the provisions of subsection 3, not subsection 2, of section 77 of the Ordinance to us. That subsection declares—doing violence to the ordinary meaning of words—that “every act, failure, neglect, omission, or refusal whereby any section of this Ordinance is contravened” shall be deemed a nuisance. The Magistrate held, therefore, that our omission to give notice was a nuisance, and fined us \$50 under section 85 to which you refer. He inflicted precisely the same penalty for the simple omission to give a notice as for a trespass and encroachment on Crown Land. This seems to us to show a very lamentable want of discretion in the apportionment of punishment to offence.

We venture to suggest that the subsection in question should be removed from the Ordinance, or explained, and that the direct conflict between sections 84 and 85 as to penalties should be amended. Under the combined operation of subsection 3 of section 77 and of section 85, every possible breach of the Ordinance is made subject to a fine of \$100, while the preceding, not a subsequent, section—limits the powers of the Magistrate in regard to the very gravest offences that can be committed against the Ordinance—breaches of the important sections 54 to 66—to a sum of \$50.

In conclusion, we beg to repeat that we were, in our opinion, unjustly and erroneously fined in respect of two at least of the three summonses against us, and that we are not satisfied, in spite of the explanations contained in your letter, that the very extensive powers vested in the Public Works Department have in these cases been exercised with that amount of discretion and common sense the public are entitled to expect, and we beg to point out that the indiscreet exercise of these powers by men acting without advice or direction from superior authority, may become a greater nuisance than any the Ordinance is aimed at.—We have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servants,

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE

Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, Acting Colonial Secretary.

It will be remembered, says the *N. C. Daily News*, that the Emperor, having his own opinions as to the energy of the Viceroy Li Hung-chang in endeavouring to arrest his protégés, the three runaway Generals of Port Arthur, viz.:—Wei Ju-cheng (the decapitated General Wei's younger brother), Tsao Huai-yi, and Huang Sz-lin, ordered the Governor of Anhui to search for Wei and Tsao to see if they had escaped to their homes in that province, at the same time ordering the Governor of Kiangsi to hunt for Huang Sz-lin and confiscate any property belonging to him in his native town of Fêngch'eng. It is now said that Huang has died from hardships and wounds, but that his property when confiscated amounted to 11s. 50,000 in cash and 11s. 100,000 in land and houses.

PRESENTATION TO DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT HORSPOOL.

AN INTERESTING RETROSPECT.

Mr. George Horspool, Deputy Superintendent of Police, retires from the Hongkong Police Force this week, and on Tuesday afternoon (5th inst.) he was made the recipient of a very handsome carriage clock and an address from the officers and men of the Force. The presentation was made in the Deputy-Superintendent's room in the presence of a large number of the members of the Force.

Chief Inspector Mathieson, in making the presentation, said—Deputy Superintendent Horspool, I am requested by the members of the Police Force to-day to ask you to accept from us a small souvenir in the shape of an address and a carriage clock on the eve of your departure on leave and retirement from the service. We are quite aware of the fact that the Hongkong Police Force is going to lose an able, zealous, and painstaking officer, and an honest, straightforward, and conscientious man. You came here twenty-eight years ago from a good old school, the Metropolitan Police Force. You came here with a thorough training in Police-work, and you have given the benefit of that training to the public and Government of Hongkong. We know you have had to send in your papers at this time on account of Mrs. Horspool's health, but we hope that the return to the old country will enable her to regain her health. I now ask you to receive this carriage clock and address on behalf of the Police, which we will take as read (applause).

The clock bore the following inscription:—
“Presented to George Horspool, Esq.; J.P., Deputy Superintendent of the Hongkong Police, by the members of the Force on his retirement after twenty-eight years' service, as a token of esteem and regard. 6th March, 1895.”

The following is the text of the address:—
“To George Horspool, Esquire, Deputy Superintendent of Police and Assistant Superintendent of Fire Brigade.

“We, the undersigned members of the Hongkong Police Force, in view of your retirement from the service after a lengthened and meritorious career of twenty-eight years' service, desire to give expression to the great esteem in which we have always held you, for the success with which you have held your various responsible appointments, and the justice with which you have carried out the duties of those positions. We one and all heartily concur in giving expression that to you is due in many respects the efficient state of the Force at the present time.

“We have invariably found in you a most conscientious and straightforward officer in your duties both to the Force and the Public, and although the Force is composed of various nationalities, yet the whole has worked harmoniously together under your supervision on the several occasions when you performed the arduous duties of Captain Superintendent of Police.

“We cannot allow you to depart from the colony without expressing our great sympathy in the cause which necessitates your leaving, and we sincerely hope that Mrs. Horspool will soon regain her health after a short stay in the old country.

“In conclusion, therefore, may we hope that wherever you may chance to reside, you and your family will enjoy such peace and happiness as will compensate you for the length of years you have spent in the trying and enervating climate of this colony of Hongkong.”

(Here follow the signatures of the whole of the European, Indian and Chinese members of the Police Force.)

Mr. Horspool said—Chief Inspector Mathieson, Officers, and Men of the Hongkong Police Force—I have to tender you, on behalf of Mrs. Horspool and myself, our heartfelt thanks for this very flattering address and very handsome clock you have just presented me with. I cannot attempt to describe with what pleasure I accept them. I was always a poor hand at making a speech. I have had, during my service, many difficult tasks set me, but I cannot remember one half so hard as this, for I think, if there is one time more than another calculated to cause a sort of fulness in the throat, it is when one is called upon to say good-bye to something they prize very highly. That is exactly my position now, for I prize very highly indeed the

Hongkong Police service, and I am very proud of my position in it. I particularly regret having to leave just at present when our respected Chief is about to take a well-earned holiday, and when I should, in all probability, have the honour once more of commanding the Force; and if my own health was the only consideration I should remain. But I am sorry to say—and I feel sure you will be sorry to hear—that my wife's health has completely broken down. It is urgently necessary that she should go home at once, and I feel it to be my duty to accompany her; and acting upon medical advice, I have asked for permission to retire on pension. I must tell you that when in England two years ago I was strongly advised by two eminent medical men not to venture through another summer in Hongkong. You remember what last summer was. The colony was visited by that terrible plague epidemic and when so much hard and disagreeable and dangerous work was thrown upon this department, I could not think, for a moment, of asking to leave. You will doubtless expect me to say something about the Force as I found it twenty-eight years ago, and the changes which have since taken place. I will try to do so, but must confine myself to the European Force. Well, I found the Force a very unpopular one. With the exception of the Assistant Superintendent and three or four Inspectors and Sergeants, there was not a man who had been five years in the Force. Recruiting was done locally, and the Force was composed of men of nearly every nationality—principally from merchant ships and old soldiers. The pay at the time was considered to be very small—from a third-class Police Constable at \$24 to a first-class Inspector at \$70 per mensem,—but considering that the dollar was worth 4/4 or 4/6, I must say it compares favourably with the present rates. There had been cases in which men recently discharged from gaol for deserting from their ship, or something of that kind, had been taken on the Force. Very little, if any, attempt was made to instruct them in their duties; they were put in suits of old uniform, given a truncheon, which they used to carry in the hand, and sent into the streets “on duty.” At night these men carried loaded muskets, and I have been told that it was customary for them, from all parts of the city, to meet each morning before going off duty at a public house, known as Portuguese Joe's at Queen's Road Central, pile arms outside on the side-walk, then go inside, to break their fast, i.e., drink (laughter). You can imagine what would, in all probability, become of such policemen, especially if they, unfortunately, came across any of their old drinking chums in the neighbourhood of the grog-shops, where the policemen could get almost unlimited drink. The old soldiers, as a rule, did not last long, drinking being their terrible stumbling block. If a man got over the first month he might possibly stay two or three years, but the average length of service, I should say, was about a year or eighteen months. It was a comfortless sort of place. There was no library, no reading rooms, no billiard room, no mess room, or even bath rooms. Each man catered for himself and took his food on his bed or his box. Of course, to a young man of ability and good character, promotion was very rapid. I remember one or two cases of men being promoted from Police Constable to the rank of Inspector in less than two years (laughter.) This state of things continued up to the end of 1871, when, with the exception of the Captain Superintendent, there were only three men who had five years' service. Since then all has been changed. In the fourteen months, from January, 1872, to March, 1873, sixty-five trained police constables arrived from home; forty-five from Edinburgh in January and February, 1872, of whom only four remain, and twenty from London in March, 1873, of whom also four remain. One is Chief Inspector, six are Inspectors, and one is Acting Inspector. These officers received \$40 per month; the pay of a 1st Class Inspector was increased to \$100 per month and the pay of the other grades increased in proportion. Since then batches of recruits have been sent out from home from time to time, as required, and only a few men—for the Water Police—have been enlisted in the colony. The comfort of the men is now studied by the heads of the department. You have a library, reading-rooms, billiard-room, mess-rooms, &c., &c., tennis-courts, and a

NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED.

A meeting of the shareholders of the National Bank of China, Limited, was held on Saturday, at noon, at the offices of the Bank, Victoria Buildings, Queen's Road. Mr. D. Gillies presided, and there were also present Messrs. Stolterfoht, Kwai Hoi Chuen (Directors), J. Buttery (a member of the London Committee), J. H. Cox, W. H. Potts, Captain Burnie, Chan Tat Man, Lee Yow Me, Chow Lui Wee, and a large number of Chinese shareholders.

The CHAIRMAN said—Your Directors, in submitting to you the accounts and report for the past half year, are happy to be able to show what may be considered a satisfactory result. The accounts having been in your hands for some weeks you will have been enabled to see how it is proposed to apply the balance standing at the credit of our profit and loss account. We think it very necessary to commence the formation of a reserve and to put every year a certain part of our earnings to the credit of such a fund. It will redound to the stability and credit of the Bank and is an earnest of our intention to add to its strength and solidity; a policy which we feel sure will be warmly endorsed by all the shareholders. We intimated to you last year our intention of having a small note issue, and we have now to inform you that it has been an unqualified success and, with full consideration for the safety of the public and the credit of the Bank, we keep ample cash funds against it. With many difficulties against us, we yet feel satisfaction in being able to assure you that the Bank continues to make good progress, one of the first principles of sound banking being kept steadily in view, and that is—not to carry bad debts. The scare caused by the plague impeded business here very considerably during the summer, added to which the effect of the war has been to cause a considerable curtailment in the usual import trade, and if the war continues much longer the results on business generally will be still more serious in the future; but we sincerely trust that hostilities will soon cease and that the results of peace will be increased trade, extended communications, and a keener appreciation by the ruling powers in China of Western methods and ideas. We keep our expenses at as low a minimum as is consistent with efficiency and generally take every care to further the Bank's interests by cautious management and prudent supervision. With these remarks I now beg to move that the accounts and report be adopted and that a dividend of \$1.25 per share be paid on all shares whose calls were not in arrear on 31st December last. Before moving the adoption of the report and statement of accounts I will be glad to answer any questions that you may be pleased to put to me.

There were no questions, and the CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, there being no questions to answer I beg to move that the report and statement of accounts be adopted and passed.

Mr. CHAN TAT MAN seconded the resolution, which was carried.

Captain BURNIE proposed that Mr. Stolterfoht and Mr. Kwan Hoi Chuen be re-elected Directors, and that Mr. C. B. Stuart-Wortley, Q.C., M.P., be re-elected a member of the London Committee.

Mr. LEE YOW ME seconded the resolution, which was carried.

Mr. CHOW LUI WEE (of the Man On Insurance Company) proposed, and Mr. SEE FONG CHUN seconded, that Mr. W. Hutton Potts and Mr. J. H. Cox be elected auditors and that Messrs. Deloitte, Dever, Griffiths & Co. be elected auditors in London at the same remuneration as before.

The resolution was carried.

The CHAIRMAN—I have to thank you for your attendance here to-day and I have the pleasure to inform you that the dividend warrants will be ready on Monday. That is all the business.

The cold at Yokohama on Thursday night, 21st February, was probably, the *Japan Gazette* says, the most intense experienced in Yokohama for many a long day—perhaps for many long years. In the Y. U. C. the lemonade was frozen solid in the bottles. The "boy" who has been there nearly a quarter of a century, never remembers seeing anything similar.

THE HUMPHREYS ESTATE AND FINANCE CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report of the governing directors for the year ending the 31st December, 1894, for presentation to the shareholders at the ninth ordinary annual general meeting of the Company, to be held at noon on the 23rd March:—

To the shareholders of Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Limited.

Gentlemen,—We beg to lay before you our report and balance sheet for the year 1894.

The net profit, including a balance of \$513.29 brought forward from last year, amounts to \$10,295, out of which we propose to pay a dividend of 7 per cent. on the Ordinary shares, which will absorb \$9,380, and carry forward \$915 to new profit and loss account.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. Fullarton Henderson, who offers himself for re-election as auditor for the ensuing year.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
Governing Directors.

Hongkong, 8th March, 1895.

BALANCE SHEET, 31st DECEMBER, 1894.

LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Cash on deposit.....	8,360.81		
Fixed loans.....	138,068.49		
Fund for equalization of dividends.....	40,400.00		
Capital account, ordinary shares \$134,000.00			
Capital account, deferred shares 120,000.00			
Profit and loss	254,000.00		
	10,295.00		
	\$451,124.30		

ASSETS.		\$	c.
Amount invested in property	311,441.50		
Amount invested on mortgage	103,835.46		
Secured loans	21,120.29		
Amount invested in public companies	2,600.00		
Sundry debtors	2,036.19		
Building materials	479.68		
Office furniture	1,300.00		
Cash in Hongkong and Shanghai			
Bank	8,278.25		
Petty cash in hand	32.93		
	8,311.18		
	\$451,124.30		

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.		\$	c.
To general charges, repairs, Crown rents, fire insurance, auditor's fees and depreciation	3,048.90		
To remuneration to governing directors for management, clerks, and office rent	3,000.00		
To dividend of 7 per cent. on \$134,000.00	9,380.00		
To balance to new account	915.00		
	\$16,343.90		

Cr.		\$	c.
By amount carried forward from 1893	513.29		
By rents, interests, &c., &c.	15,830.61		
	\$16,343.90		

THE CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the twelfth ordinary general meeting to be held on the 23rd March at noon:—

Annexed we beg to submit to shareholders the usual statement of accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1894.

The gross profit, including the balance from last year, amounts to \$3,814.40, and after writing off \$13,900 for depreciation of steamers there remains \$18,814.40, which it is proposed to deal with as follows, viz.:—

To pay a dividend of 7 per cent. \$17,500.00
To carry forward to next year's account 1,314.40
The result is disappointing compared with last year's, but has been brought about by two causes, viz., the accident to the s.s. *Zafiro*, which struck on a rock while leaving the harbour on 14th November last, causing a loss of two months' revenue to the Company, and the prevalence of the plague in Hongkong, which necessitated a further loss of 15 days' quarantine at Manila to each steamer during the greater part of the year. The result of this combination of adverse circumstances has been that while the earnings of the steamers decreased their expenses increased, thus fully accounting for the falling off this year.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

We have to record with deep regret the death of Mr. H. Hoppius, whose place at the Board has been filled by the appointment of Mr. N. A. Siebs. In accordance with the Articles of Association Messrs. Gillies, Moses, Siebs, and Shewan all retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. J. H. Cox and T. I. Rose (acting for Mr. Arnold). Messrs. Cox and Arnold are eligible for re-election.

SHEWAN & Co., General Managers.
Hongkong, 28th February, 1895.

BALANCE SHEET ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1894.

ASSETS.		\$	c.
Value of Company's steamers			
<i>Esmeralda</i> and <i>Zafiro</i>	256,000.00		
Less depreciation written off	13,000.00		
	243,000.00		

Value of buoys and moorings at Amoy and Hongkong	701.68		
Value of coals on hand	465.00		
Value of stores on hand	1,796.11		
Forfeited shares account	1,350.00		
Premium value of unexpired policies	12,760.71		
Outstanding freight 1893	138.61		
Outstanding freight 1894	16,791.97		
Sundry debtors	6,978.27		
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	7,551.24		
Cash on hand	528.77		
	\$292,062.36		

LIABILITIES.

Capital, 5,000 shares at \$50 per share	250,000.00		
Dividends uncollected account 1893	177.50		
Bad and doubtful debts	0.11		
Underwriting account	7,050.68		
Sundry creditors	12,470.78		
Due to General Managers	3,518.94		
Balance of profit and loss account	18,814.40		
	\$292,062.36		

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Interest account	926.04		
Exchange account	237.21		
Charges account	1,438.81		
Loss on stores	94.64		
Consulting committee	2,000.00		
Auditors' fees	300.00		
Amount written off for depreciation 1894	13,000.00		
Balance	18,814.40		
	\$36,811.10		

Balance from last account	\$13,077.35		
Less dividend for 1893	12,500.00		
	577.35		
Profit on working steamers <i>Esmeralda</i> and <i>Zafiro</i>	27,768.31		
Amount transferred from bad and doubtful debts	5,952.00		
Amount received from Spanish Government, Manila account, fines paid in 1887 refunded	1,830.94		
Profit on sale of 50 forfeited shares	632.50		
	\$36,811.10		

BAD AND DOUBTFUL DEBTS.

Balance from last account	845.36		
Amount transferred to profit and loss account	5,952.00		
Balance	0.11		
	\$6,797.47		

Amount received for 5 per cent. dividend on claim against Russell & Co. in liquidation	\$	c.
Amount received account compromised claim against Russell & Co. in liquidation, at Manila	1,641.36	
	5,156.11	
	\$6,797.47	

THE HONGKONG ROPE MANUFACTURING CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the eleventh ordinary general meeting, to be held at the office of the General Managers, on Saturday, 23rd March, at 12.30 p.m.

Annexed we have the pleasure to lay before shareholders the usual annual statement of accounts made up to the 31st December, 1894.

The gross profit including the balance brought forward from last year amounts to \$46,152.02, and after writing off \$10,000 for depreciation of plant and machinery there remains \$36,152.02, which it is proposed to appropriate as follows:—

To place to reserve fund \$ 5,000.00 || To pay a dividend of 18 per cent | 27,009.00 |
| To carry forward to next year's account | 4,152.02 |

Owing to the heavy demand for the Company's rope created by the war in the North the factory was for the first time in its existence kept steadily going throughout the year, with the exception of a few days in the summer when work was stopped by the plague. The usual clean up took place at the end of the year, when machinery and plant were thoroughly overhauled and put in first class order and condition.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

In accordance with the articles of association Messrs. Gillies, Moses, Lewis, and Shewan retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. F. Henderson and T. I. Rose (acting for Mr. Arnold). Messrs. Henderson and Arnold are recommended for re-election.

SHEWAN & Co., General Managers.
Hongkong, 28th February, 1895.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.	
Exchange	\$ 109.34
Repairs and maintenance of buildings and machinery	1,457.19
Written off buildings and machinery as depreciation for 1894	10,000.00
Transferred from bad and doubtful debts account	140.70
Consulting committee	1,000.00
Auditors	300.00
Balance	36,152.02
	\$49,152.25

Balance from 1893	\$ 122.60
Interest	223.52
Balance of working account	48,813.13
	\$49,159.25

BALANCE SHEET.	
Cost of land	\$ 20,000.00
Value of factory, machinery, &c. as per last statement	110,000.00
Less depreciation 1894	10,000.00
	100,000.00
Value of rope, hemp, &c., in godowns	39,618.12
Value of rope consigned	\$46,314.59
Less advances on same	15,385.57
	30,929.02
Insurance premium account 1895	1,075.84
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	13,456.78
Cash in hand	1,152.13
Cash at factory	25.00
Sundry debtors	21,256.17
	\$231,910.06
Capital, 3,000 shares at \$50 paid-up	150,000.00
Reserve fund	30,000.00
Due General Managers	3,203.18
Sundry creditors	12,554.86
Balance of profit and loss account	36,152.02
	\$231,910.06

THE HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the report of the directors to be presented at the ordinary meeting of shareholders, to be held at the Company's hotel, at noon on Saturday next:—

In accordance with section 53 of the articles of association, the directors have now to submit to the shareholders their half-yearly report for the six months ending 31st December, 1894.

ACCOUNTS.

The profit and loss account of the Company shows a credit balance of \$576.92, including \$2,765.31 brought forward from last account, as compared with a debit balance of \$10,379.17 on 31st December, 1893. The amount received from rents of shops and offices is practically the same as for the half-year ending 30th June, 1894.

The profit of the hotel, as distinct from that of the Company, for the six months amounts to \$5,714.06, against a profit for the same half-year of 1893 of \$2,381.16.

The profit on the "board and lodging account" for the half-year is \$14,731.60, against a profit on the same account for July to December, 1893, of \$12,333.43.

The "bar and wine room accounts" show a surplus of \$9,862.68, against \$6,892.08 for the same period of the previous year.

The "billiards account" shows a diminished profit to the extent of \$882.47, with considerably less gross receipts, which the directors find it difficult to explain satisfactorily. The takings from this source of revenue will require careful watching by the management in future.

The gross earnings of the steam launch also show a heavy falling off, upwards of 30 per cent. This is likewise difficult to explain, assuming that the subordinates in charge of the launch collections during the period under review paid in to the hotel office all the money they received.

Salaries and wages for the six months amounted to \$9,794.13, against \$9,909.02 for the second half of 1893. Repairs and sundry expenses accounts show balances at debit much about the same as last year.

HOTEL COMPANY'S ACCOUNT.

The very large interest charge on mortgages and debentures differs but very little from that of previous half-years. It will be noted that the whole of this charge has been debited to the profit and loss account of the Company.

The sum of \$23,050, being the amount of allotment and first calls paid up on 922 forfeited shares, has been removed from the capital account and the value of "hotel property" written down to that extent.

The sum of \$2,800 on account of calls has been collected during the half-year from various persons whose shares have been forfeited. The sum of \$1,000 was received in a similar way prior to 30th June last. These two amounts now stand at credit of profit and loss account, but the directors recommend that they should be written off "furniture account" during the current half-year.

Legal expenses \$508 are chiefly in connection with recovery of calls on shares and trade debts.

The sum of \$5,493 was paid last month to the Go-

vernment, being second instalment due on account of the Hotel Company's interest in the Praya reclamation.

BUSINESS.

The business done by the hotel has been somewhat larger than during the corresponding half of 1893.

The gross receipts, apart from the rents of shops and offices, show an increase of about 8 per cent. The gross revenue to date of the present half year (1895) shows an improvement on that for the same months of last year.

MANAGEMENT.

The late manager, Mr. R. Tucker, delivered up charge of the hotel on the 22nd December last. His five years agreement did not expire until the 30th April, 1895, but the directors considered it best in the interests of the hotel to pay him off as soon as a new manager could be obtained.

The agreement of the present manager, Mr. E. J. Richardson, expires on the 30th June next.

DIRECTORS.

Messrs. Ho Tung and W. Parfitt retire by rotation. Mr. Ho Tung does not offer himself for re-election; Mr. Parfitt does. The directors have invited Mr. R. C. Wilcox to a seat on the board, which appointment requires confirmation by the shareholders.

AUDIT.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. W. H. Potts and W. H. Gaskell, who offer themselves for re-election.

Ho Tung, Chairman.

Hongkong, 12th March, 1895.

BALANCE SHEET, 31st DECEMBER, 1894.

ASSETS.	
To Hotel property—	
To marine lot No. 5, and remaining portion of marine lot No. 3, as per last report	\$ 435,573.04
Less \$25 on 922 shares forfeited	23,050.00
	\$412,523.04
To remaining portion of marine lot No. 7, as per last report	408,157.26
To Praya Reclamation	7,049.92
	827,730.22
To furniture, as per last report	\$87,757.91
Since added	497.40
	88,255.31
To stock, wines, and provisions	9,919.84
To steam launch	2,500.00
To cash	1,667.38
To shares	11,474.10
To licenses attaching to 1895	642.50
To Hongkong Bank	11,560.77
To sundry debtors	15,326.06
	\$989,076.27

LIABILITIES.

By capital—	
8,879 shares at \$50 each	443,950.00
By Hongkong Hotel Co., Limited, 300 (6 per cent.) debentures at \$500 each	150,000.00
By Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Limited	350,000.00
By sundry creditors	24,549.35
By balance	576.92
	\$969,076.27

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1894.

To Crown rent	\$ 365.89
To directors' and auditors' fees	900.00
To salaries and commissions	1,354.13
To fire insurance	833.49
To legal expenses	508.00
To interest on loans and debentures	16,657.54
To balance	576.92
	\$21,225.97

By balance from last account	\$ 2,765.31
By profit on Hongkong Hotel for six months ending 31st December, 1894	\$ 5,714.06
By less bad debts	830.74
	\$ 4,883.33
By add rent of shops and offices	10,487.04
	15,370.36
By bonus and dividends from local offices	18,135.67
By received against forfeited shares to 31st December, 1894	490.30
	2,600.00
	\$21,225.97

The *Kobe Herald* says:—In agreement with the representation of the Lower House the Government intended to bring in a budget for the establishment of an iron foundry this session, but the intention has been dropped owing to pressure of business in connection with war affairs. A committee will, however, be appointed early in April next for the investigation of matters in connection with the proposed undertaking with a view to laying the matter before the House next session.

THE NEW BALMORAL GOLD MINING CO., LIMITED.

The General Manager of the New Balmoral Gold Mining Co., Limited, has received advices dated 7th February per *Menmuir*.

The pressure of work during the preceding month had not allowed the mining manager time to devote his attention to all points, but he gave his best energies to the most important of them, viz., Balmoral, Queen, and Eureka, in order that sufficient stone may be obtained as cheaply as possible to keep the battery in constant work. This was expected to result very shortly after the Eureka mine had been cleared of water.

Balmoral.—A considerable amount of surface work has been done with a view to getting the mine into proper working order in the shortest time. The winze was too small for the requirements and was being cut down, supplies of good gold-bearing stone being met with in this and other workings. The mine was looking more promising day by day, and at any time a rich vein might be struck. The formation of the gold deposit remains still very patchy, and rich stone is occasionally met with, but in small quantities.

Queen.—The reef is now somewhat larger, and the bulk of the stone next crushed will be got from this mine. The boiler is now on the ground, and the poppet-heads will next be taken in hand.

Grant.—The upper level is now being worked from the Queen shaft, the drive from which has been continued through the boundary. Fair stone is being obtained.

Eureka.—Here work has been pushed forward; poppet-heads are now erected, winding engine been set in position, and the boiler is ready for fitting up steam as soon as the connections are made. In a few days the pump would be in position, and the mine was expected to be in working condition in about a week.

Battery.—Several repairs and alterations to defects which were brought to light by the first crushing had to be effected, but these have been properly carried out.

THE SHANGHAI CARGO BOAT COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the report of the directors for the year ended 31st December, 1894, presented to the shareholders at the first annual general meeting held at the office of the agents, Messrs. Wheelock & Co., Shanghai, on the 4th inst.:—

In accordance with the resolution passed at the extraordinary general meeting of shareholders held on the 21st May last, steps were taken by the directors to reconstitute the Shanghai Cargo Boat Co. as a limited liability company, and all necessary legal requirements having been complied with, this company was duly registered under the Hongkong Companies' Ordinances on the 26th June, 1894, as a company limited by shares, and at the same time advantage was taken of this reconstruction to give effect to the wishes of the shareholders of altering the denomination of the shares from Tls. 200 to Tls. 100, each shareholder receiving two shares in the present company for every share held in the old company.

In accordance with the requirements of the Hongkong Ordinances the statutory meeting of shareholders in the new company was held on the 23rd October last.

In presenting the annexed accounts for 1894, the directors are much pleased at being able to report a still further increase in the company's earnings, the final result showing a balance at credit of working account of Tls. 64,895.27.

An interim dividend to 30th June of 7½ per cent. was paid in August, absorbing Tls. 13,000 and payments have since been made amounting Tls. 7,045.23 on account of new lighters, Tls. 5,325.28 being final payment for the hopper barges (which are now fully paid for), and Tls. 1,720 for two new boats. The balance now standing at credit of profit and loss is Tls. 45,389.12, which with the consent of the shareholders the directors propose to appropriate as follows:—

A dividend of 7½ per cent. (making 15 per Tls. cent. for year).....15,000.00
Amount to be placed to reserve fund.....10,000.00
Balance to be carried forward.....20,389.12

From the amount to be brought forward the directors propose to pay, say Tls. 19,000 towards their share of the new tugboat which has just been built in conjunction with the Co-operative Cargo Boat Company of Shanghai, Limited, and which they trust will prove a great acquisition to the company.

The directors, acting on the suggestion of the shareholders, have had the boats surveyed and valued by Mr. R. W. Croal, the Company's Surveyor, and have now taken the opportunity of writing down the plant to something like its true value. By doing this the sum of Tls. 47,046.29 has been written off reserve fund for the estimated depreciation of the stock, the

latter account now standing at Tls. 260,000, which figure the directors consider a fair valuation.

The repairs to lighters may appear to be very extensive, but six boats have been entirely rebuilt and all the others have had a thorough overhaul, the fleet now being in very good condition, though a further addition to it is likely to be necessary in the near future. A contract was made in the latter part of the year for the construction of four large wooden boats, two of which are now working, the others to be delivered shortly.

DIRECTORS.

Mr. Haupt on leaving Shanghai resigned his seat on the Board on the 8th January. Mr. Korff was invited to take his place, and Mr. Tulloch, upon his return, was asked to resume his seat; this will require confirmation by the shareholders. Mr. J. G. Pardon, whose leave of absence has expired, now ceases to be a director in accordance with the Articles of Association, and Messrs. Frank Gove and Alexander McLeod retire in accordance with Article No. 24, but being eligible to offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITOR.

Mr. J. D. Thorburn resigns, but offers himself for re-election.

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.

THE CLUB V. THE UNITED SERVICES.

This was the second match played under the above title this season, and resulted after an interesting game in a win for the Club by the handsome margin of ten wickets. A result something like this was almost inevitable after the complete collapse of the Services' batting in their first innings—a collapse for which it is difficult to offer any adequate explanation. That the wicket was a bit fiery and all in favour of the bowler must be allowed, and this was further exemplified (if exemplification was necessary) by the fact that the Club in their turn cut far from a brilliant figure on it; but for a side of the batting strength of the combined eleven upon this occasion to be put out for 53 was a complete surprise, and can only be accounted for by the glorious under—(but stay, Mr. Printer, we fancy this phrase has been used before).

Reade beat Leach in the toss and naturally elected to take the innings, sending in Garde and Sergt. Burton to the bowling of Darby and Lowson. The individual performances of the batsmen call for little comment, as not one of them displayed any confidence in meeting the bowler's deliveries and only two out of the Eleven got into double figures. Darby was chiefly responsible for this breakdown and he came out with the remarkable analysis of 8 wickets for 37 runs. The wicket suited him, of course, but as a matter of fact only one or two of his deliveries got up at all awkwardly, and he got most of his wickets with balls that pitched straight and went on being straight.

The first innings of the Club promised to be not much more noteworthy than that of their opponents, as Lowson was out off a very bad stroke with the score at 11, and when the bell rang on Friday evening the total was only 85 for 5 wickets, out of which total Darby and E. W. Maitland had contributed 50 between them. On resuming operations on Saturday morning the not outs carried the score to 87, and subsequently Leach and Ellis making a useful little stand together the score was carried to 142 before the last wicket fell. Leach carried out his bat for 25 made in excellent style. Elliott, Shelford, and Private Lee shared the bowling honours between them; the latter being very troublesome to play, as he got up a good deal on the hard ground.

Being in a minority of 89 runs the Services opened their second innings under somewhat discouraging circumstances, as it was almost impossible for them—with the time at their disposal—to make up for the ground that had been lost. As a matter of fact their second overture was not much more brilliant than their first, as with the exception of Garde, Arbuthnot, and Knox, who contributed 23, 26, and 26 respectively, none of the batsmen were at all at home with the bowling, and the whole side was disposed of for the not very handsome total of 119, or only 32 runs on; and these runs were quickly knocked off by Lowson and F. Maitland without the loss of a wicket. Sercombe Smith and E. W. Maitland were the successful trundlers in the Services' second innings, the analysis in each case being very remarkable. The fielding on the part of the Club was fairly close and accurate, whilst Garde kept wicket in excellent form for the Army and Navy.

It is to be hoped that it will be found possible to pick out better wickets for the few matches

that remain to be played; but the fact is that the ground is quite worn out with the hard work it has had this season, and is in sad need of its summer rest. In this colony the climatic conditions during the winter months are so hostile to the growth and preservation of turf that it is impossible to restore a wicket that has once been played on, and any portion of the ground that is injured remains in a practically unplayable condition for the rest of the season, and in fact until it is returned and restored by the summer rains. Unfortunately the area available for match pitches is so small that it is impossible to pick out a new wicket for every game. Scores—

UNITED SERVICES.

FIRST INNINGS.		SECOND INNINGS.	
R. B. Garde, R.N., lbw., b Darby	8	lbw., b Maitland	21
Sergt. Burton, b Darby	0	c Lowson, b Darby	7
Lt. Sir R. Arbuthnot, R.N., c and b Darby	7	b Maitland	28
Lt. C. W. Knox, R.B., b Lowson	10	b Maitland	28
Lt. G. D. Campbell, H.K.R., c Lowson, b Darby	10	b Maitland	0
Surg. Major Reade, A.M.S., c Smith, b Lowson	5	c Shelford, b Maitland	11
Lt. L. B. Sanderson, R.B., b Darby	4	c sub, b Maitland	2
Lt. F. A. Platt, R.N., b Darby	4	c Ellis, b S. Smith	0
Lt. T. L. Shelford, b Darby	0	b S. Smith	1
H. M. C. Elliott, R.N., not out	2	not out	8
Pte. Lee, R.B., c Shelford, b Darby	2	c Ellis, b S. Smith	11
Extras	1	Extras	4
	53		119

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

Overs. Mds. Runs. Wides. N.B. Wkts.

First Innings.					
Darby	19	6	37	—	8
Lowson	18	10	15	—	2
Second Innings.					
Lowson	13	3	27	—	—
Leach	8	1	25	—	—
Darby	12	5	23	—	1
E. W. Maitland	16	6	25	—	6
S. Smith	8 3/5	5	8	—	3

HONGKONG.

FIRST INNINGS.		SECOND INNINGS.	
J. A. Lowson, c sub, b Lee	11	not out	24
E. W. Maitland, c and b Lee	20		
F. Maitland, c Sanderson, b Elliott	5	not out	6
S. L. Darby, b Shelford	30		
E. A. Ram, lbw, b Shelford	10		
T. S. Smith, b Shelford	0		
E. C. Ellis, b Elliott	23		
A. J. Leach, not out	24		
Ross Thomson, b Lee	9		
B. P. Sheldon, lbw, b Elliott	6		
S. Powell, c Reade, b Lee	1		
Extras	3		4

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

Overs. Mds. Runs. Wides. N.B. Wkts.

First Innings.					
Elliott	18	2	51	—	3
Lee	31.4	9	62	—	4
Shelford	14	6	25	—	3
Second Innings.					
Shelford	5	2	14	—	—
Lee	4	—	16	—	—

FOOTBALL.

HONGKONG FOOTBALL CLUB V. NAVY.

The Rugby match played on Wednesday afternoon (6th inst.) at the Happy Valley was by no means evenly contested. The Club was not at all well represented, owing chiefly to the illness of several players. After a few minutes' play it soon became evident that the game would be much in the Club's ground. From a good pass from Powlett, the ball was obtained by Arbuthnot, who skilfully avoiding all opponents secured a try, which was unconverted. After a few scrums in the centre of the field, Shelford passed out, and after travelling brilliantly from one naval player to another, the ball eventually fell to Blount, who grounded it in the desired quarter. The try was converted by Noble. A good run up the field by Bowring placed the Club more on the offensive, but just before half time play again converged towards their goal, and Powlett obtained the third try without much difficulty. The kick was taken by Shelford, but went short. Soon after recommencing, amidst a scramble, Powlett obtained another try, which was also barren. Their opponents were now doing their utmost to prevent further scoring, and on one occasion Potts seemed certain to break away; however, he was well stopped by James. Scrimmages in rapid succession now took place, Leatham's weight, strength, and pushing power being displayed to advantage. The combination of the Navy, both in and out of the scrimmage, was very good, and provoked much admiration from the onlookers. Eventually two more tries were obtained, one by Sir R. K. Arbuthnot, which was converted by Noble, the other by Lieut. Powlett, of which nothing came. The

match thus ended in a victory for the Navy by two goals and four tries to nil.

A correspondent sends us the following account:—The return Rugby match against the Navy took place at the Happy Valley on Wednesday afternoon (6th inst.), the result being 2 goals and 4 tries to nil in favour of the Navy. The same complaint has been made year after year that when an important match of this kind is to come off the Club team fail to put in their full strength, and thus it happened yesterday afternoon. Owing to indisposition several of the Club team were unable to put in an appearance; consequently the game was a one-sided one. Several men were called in at the last moment; consequently the game did not commence till after five o'clock. After the kick off the Navy rushed the ball down to the Club quarters, where the game was practically played throughout the 40 minutes. The brilliant passing of the Navy's three quarters was the chief feature of the game, and considering the excellence of their play it is a wonder that the Navy did not score more than they did. As far as the Club team is concerned, why was Lammert (who knows little or nothing of the game) made to play back? Lambarde at three quarters put in good useful work, but received no support from anyone outside the scrimmage. Mathieson, Bowring, Sanders, and Potts played well forward, but the rest were apparently quite new to the game. With regard to the first try the Navy made, there is no doubt that the ball was thrown forward, but the referee did not appear to be looking in that direction. For the Navy Leatham, Arbuthnot, Powlett, Blount, Shelford, and Pratt played a splendid game.

THE RETURN MATCH.

By a quarter to five on Tuesday afternoon at the Happy Valley a goodly number of spectators had lined the ground in order to view the struggle for supremacy between these two Clubs. Many seemed to think that the Navy would not have much difficulty in winning, but when the match commenced it was quickly seen that there was not much to choose as regards either team. The Club won the toss and elected to play with the wind. Their opponents kicking off soon found the ball returned to their quarters. Between the Navy's twenty-five and the centre of the field a succession of scrimmages took place, until Lambard managed to make a good though short run, at the end of which Bowring did more running, but was ultimately forced into touch. From the throw in the ball fell to Leatham, who made strides at once to the Club's enclosure. As one after another of his opponents was brushed off, he appeared to be getting uncomfortably near, but a fine collar by Antou pulled him to earth. Again the ball was worked up towards the Navy's quarters, where it remained at half-time, despite several good attempts by Arbuthnot to remove. The Club's partisans now had good grounds for hoping that the game would end favourably, for their team had been slightly pressing throughout the whole of the first half. Changing over, both sides displayed all their skill and the fray waxed fast and furious. From a scrum the ball was passed out to Antou, who skilfully eluding his pursuers and opposers managed to get a good way up the field; then getting into difficulties he passed to Landale, who amidst much excitement carried the ball nearly to the goal line, where, being greatly obstructed, he passed to De Vitre, who obtained the first try. Landale took the kick, and a mighty groan from the spectators showed that it had not been converted. Some remarkable play now took place; the Navy redoubled their efforts and seemed to be stimulated by the reverse. Arbuthnot in particular gave the Club much anxiety, as whenever he had the ball he was a source of danger. Spectators whether favouring the Club or Navy were unanimous in their admiration of the way in which this Naval player dodged his opponents, and the frequent adjuration of Ross Thomson, the Club's back, to "catch him low" was by no means unnecessary. The Navy now began to press, but whenever the ball fell to Thomson his sure and certain kicking soon sent the ball away. Firth was now conspicuous and at times was most helpful in getting the ball up, while Potts was always giving considerable assistance. Shelford for the Navy was always ready for the ball, and when he obtained it he always passed with great judgment. Powlett also was a tower

of strength to his side. About three minutes before time Shelford passed the ball to Arbuthnot, who made a magnificent run to within a few yards of the goal line; a scrimmage rapidly took place, and the ball was heeled out to Shelford, who ran in and obtained a try. This was well converted by Noble, and a great outburst of cheering showed how intense was the feeling of the onlookers. During the short time that remained the Club pressed hard; and when time was called they were hard at work in their opponents' twenty-five, but were unable to score further. One of the best matches that has ever been played in the colony of Hong-kong thus resulted in a victory for the Navy by one try converted (or five points) to one try unconverted (or two points).

HOCKEY.

ENGLAND V. SCOTLAND.

This return match was played last Thursday, much interest being felt, as it was known the Northerners were bent on retrieving their former defeat. Scotland had to do without F. Maitland (replaced by Beattie), but matters were equalized by England playing one short, C. H. Thompson being the absentee. A brisk game ensued, more characterized, especially on the part of the Scotch team, by hard work than science. Sliman in the centre alone really played the game, feeding his wings, who hardly ever passed the ball in to him. The feature of the Scotch attack was that it was almost entirely confined to the individual efforts of the wingers Landale and Anton. Anton scored twice; but Landale's brilliant runs would have been much more serviceable to his side if he had passed when pressed.

England started the game by carrying the ball into Scotch quarters and gained a corner. Shortly afterwards a neat pass by Sheldon, who always plays a scientific and unselfish game, in front of goal to Hooper on the left wing resulted in first goal for England, scored by Hooper. Ram passing to Firth another corner was scored for England. On playing out Landale then got the ball and ran it down the ground, but missed making a goal. On the return of the ball Anton secured it and making a beautiful run down the side line dodged Molesworth and Stewart and scored first goal for Scotland, literally off his own bat. On bullying off the Northerners again pressed the Southerners hard, but were ultimately beaten off, and England scored a corner. Two good shots at Scotland's goal were well saved, and Landale and Sliman getting together carried the ball the whole way down the ground. Molesworth averted the danger, and passing Firth made a run and would have made a goal if Patterson on the Scotch goal had not interposed his legs. A ding-dong game followed, each side working hard, and scoring a corner, and half time saw the score—goals one all, England three corners, and Scotland two. On resuming England invaded the Scottish quarters, but a fierce rally ended in its being returned to the opposite end, and loud cheers announced that Anton had shot the second goal for Scotland. England, rallied by Millward, soon carried the war North, and secured a corner, a goal being saved by the efforts of Maitland. In the mêlée Anton got the ball and passing Kozhevar at full back threatened to score again, but was well stopped by Stewart. A fine run and shot by Firth brought the score level—two goals all. Hooper missed a good chance of making the score three, but shortly afterwards Sheldon secured the coveted odd point. This fired Scotland to fresh efforts, and enthusiasm ran high when Sliman in the centre dodging through the English halves and backs placed another goal to the credit of Scotland. Score, three all. Very hard work followed on both sides: first the Scotch scored a corner; then Ram and Firth by a good bit of combined play carried the ball down the ground, and Hooper shot at goal, but missed it, the ball glancing off the post. Toward the finish Landale made brilliant efforts, and again and again carried the ball up Scotland's left wing into English quarters, but Cobbold at half and Millward at full back foiled all his attempts. At last a sharp run by Firth, ending in a well-judged pass to the centre, enabled Sheldon to shoot the final goal for England. After some up and down play good passing by Ram, Sheldon, and Firth brought the ball again within the Scotch striking circle. Ram however, failed to score a rather easy shot, and when the whistle went the Rose had carried

the day over the Thistle by 4 goals to 3. Anton and Sliman took the honours for Scotland, putting in an immense amount of hard but in effective work. Firth and Sheldon were the most conspicuous of the English forwards, whilst Cobbold and Millward in the second half were invaluable at half back and full back respectively. The challenge of sticks was heard rather too frequently, and the claim too freely admitted. In our opinion it was quite wrongly allowed twice against Molesworth and once each against Millward, Kozhevar, Patterson, and Landale. One of the umpires also from inside the field ruled a ball out over the line, which, as seen by onlookers on the line, did not approach within six inches of it. The decision was very loyally accepted, but umpires would do well to bear in mind that the rule is to disallow objections where any doubt exists.

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

LONG RANGE CUP AND SPOONS.

Saturday was a good day for rifle shooting and there was a good attendance of members. The Cup was won by Major Moore, the member who was first not having entered for the Cup competition, and the Spoons by Corp. Lynch, Lieut. Hoey, Sergt. Shearing, Major Wrottesley, and Private Godbear. The following are the best scores:—

Name.	700 yards.	800 yards.	Total.	H'cap Gd.
Corporal Lynch, R.E.	40	34	74	10.....84
Major Moore, A.P.D.	44	28	72	12.....84
Lieut. Hoey, R.E.	37	46	83	nil.....81
Sergt. Shearing, R.E.	46	33	79	nil.....79
Mjr. Wrottesley, R.E.	48	25	73	6.....79
Private Godbear, R.E.	43	31	74	nil.....74
Sapper Pritchard, R.E.	29	34	63	8.....71
Mr. R. V. Rutter	20	35	55	16.....71
Pvt. Woodbridge, R.E.	31	33	69	nil.....69
Corp. McCrory, R.E.	32	37	69	nil.....69
Mr. E. C. Shepherd	37	30	67	2.....69
Mr. McDonald	24	30	54	14.....68

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

The twelfth Club race was sailed on the 3rd inst. in glorious weather, with a cool breeze to temper the rays of a somewhat ardent sun. The Dart showed her wonderful power of shooting away in a light breeze. She was never seriously challenged and won easily.

Course.—From the Submarine Mining Pier, Wellington Barracks, between the Central Fairway buoys, round mark boat off Green Island, Cosmopolitan Dock buoy, No. 1 Dock buoy, and Channel Rocks (leaving all to starboard); 14 miles.

STARTERS: FIRST CLASS.

Name.	Owner.	Rating.
Payne	R.E.	1.6
Dart	Dr. Lawson	1.5
Erica	Mr. A. Denison	1.5
Ladybird	Mr. C. D. Wilkinson	1.4

SECOND CLASS.

Elfin	Mr. G. P. Lammert
Seabreeze	Surg.-Major Westcott

There was a light breeze from eastward at the start and spinnakers were set to starboard for the run to the Green Island mark. After passing the Fairway buoy the wind fell very light and almost died away altogether. Dart stood out to the northward and found a breeze, which brought her to the mark boat slightly ahead of Ladybird, who was second; then came Payne and, some distance behind, Erica.

When sheets were hauled to the wind and the boats laid full and bye, it was found that they pointed somewhat to windward of the Cosmopolitan Dock mark. Dart's big mainsail at once began to tell in the light air and she streaked away very fast. Payne was also moving well and went through Ladybird's lee into second place. The wind was very shifty and baffling at the Cosmopolitan Dock mark, which was rounded in the same order. Off Yaumati the wind veered to the south-east and increased in force, and it was a beat to the Kowloon point. Dart increased her lead at every board. It was a long beat to windward to the Channel Rocks in a steady and freshening breeze. The Rocks were rounded as follows:—Dart, Payne, Erica, and Ladybird.

The run home was uneventful, but Payne closed up considerably on Dart, and the race finished thus:—

	H.	M.	S.	10 marks
Dart	3	12	33	4
Payne	3	14	51	1
Erica	3	17	26	1
Ladybird	3	31	46	

SECOND CLASS.

	H.	M.	S.	10 marks
Elfin	3	32	22	
Seabreeze				gave up
Marks now are:—				
Dart	80	She		42
Erica	57	Elfin		41
Stella	15	Kitten		29
Petrel	15	Mary Ann		10
Payne	8	Seabreeze		10
Ladybird	3			

TREATY REVISION IN JAPAN.

In the Japanese House of Peers on the 2nd inst. Prince Konoe gave notice that he would address an interpellation to the Government regarding the new treaty lately concluded between Japan and England. He said that the project for the revision of the treaties, which had previously so often failed, had been accomplished in July last year, and it had been welcomed in Japan, as it was thought that the revision had been made on an equal footing. Quite contrary to the general belief, however, it had been found that this was not so. By the terms of the new revised treaty the coasting trade was by one provision conditionally restricted to Japanese vessels, but by means of other provisions this advantage was practically lost. Again, the present foreign Settlements were to be included within the town limits after the treaty had been put in force, but in such case who was to pay the ground rent of the land which was now held under perpetual lease? Further, it appeared that the land held by foreign individuals by means of perpetual leases could not be recovered by the State. Another matter which should be explained was as to the treaty being put into force in England and Japan alone, and he desired to know what steps were being taken to extend its provisions to India and other parts of British territory which were now excluded. As to the provisions regarding Customs duties, he wished to know how such arrangements could be made by the Government without first consulting the Diet?

ATTACK BY PIRATES IN TONKIN.

The following particulars of the recent attack by pirates in Tonkin are published by the *Courrier d'Haiphong*:—M.M. Hirlé and Sabot had for some days been engaged on the construction of a line of telegraph from Thainguyen to Chomoi, and on the evening of the 22nd February the line had been carried a length of fifteen kilometres. The young men passed the night of the 22nd in a makeshift erected near the course of the telegraph line and certain indications observed by the escort and the coolies having raised a suspicion that an attack might be attempted the sentries were doubled. The night, however, passed without incident and on the morning of the 23rd M.M. Hirlé and Sabot, having regained confidence as to their security, proceeded to their work, the first in a ricksha and the second on horseback and accompanied only by two armed guards. The remainder of the escort, eighteen men, were left in camp with orders to follow an hour later and to bring on the baggage. Hardly had M.M. Hirlé and Sabot and the two guards proceeded seven or eight hundred metres when they were suddenly attacked by a large band and surrounded. The two guards without hesitation fired at the aggressors, who immediately returned the fire. M. Hirlé was shot in the neck and fell mortally wounded, and another bullet wounded in the wrist the guard near M. Sabot. At the sound of firing the horse of the latter became unmanageable and threw his rider, who was immediately seized and carried off by the pirates. The escort, hearing the firing, proceeded to the spot as quickly as possible, but their arrival was too late to prevent the carrying off of M. Sabot. It was seen that pursuit would be useless, and even dangerous, owing to the small number of soldiers constituting the escort, and therefore the information they were able to give as to the direction taken by the pirates was very vague.

The Viceroy Chang has, we learn from the *N. C. Daily News*, bought a number of steam tugs and launches for towing junks carrying soldiers on the Yangtze river and the Grand Canal. The last purchase amounted to four, and it is said that several others are still required.

HONGKONG.

On the 5th inst. Mrs. Bishop gave an interesting account, in the Odd Volumes Society's room, of her travels in Western Tibet. Mr. Justice Ackroyd, who has retired from the service, left the colony on the 6th inst. Deputy Superintendent Horspool, who has retired from the Police Force, was presented with a carriage clock and an address by the members of the Force. On Thursday an exhibition of Australian products was held at St. Andrew's Hall, and during the afternoon they were inspected by H. E. the Governor. The hockey match between England and Scotland was won by England by four goals to three. At a meeting of the members of the Victoria Recreation Club it was unanimously resolved to erect a match on the old bathing place. The exhibition of photographs taken by amateurs, which will be sent to the Imperial Institute, London, was held in the Odd Volumes Society's room and created a considerable amount of interest. On Saturday the shareholders of the Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Limited, and the National Bank of China, Limited, held their annual meetings. On Tuesday afternoon the Legislative Council met under the presidency of His Excellency the Governor, Sir William Robinson.

The London *Gazette* announces that the Queen has been pleased to approve of Mr. J. Johnstone Keswick as Consul-General of Hawaii at Hongkong.

The appointments of the Hon. W. M. Goodman to be Acting Chief Justice and Mr. A. J. Leach, Q.C., to be Acting Attorney-General, are gazetted.

Inspector Stanton, of the Police Force, who has been home on leave, returned on Saturday by the steamer *Titan*. He brought with him ten recruits for the Force.

Amongst the passengers who left by the M.M. steamer *Ernest Simons* on the 6th inst. were Mr. de Champeaux, the agent of the Messageries Maritimes at this port, and Mrs. de Champeaux, who are going home for a holiday.

We are advised by the Secretary of the Punjom Mining Co. of the receipt of a telegram from the mines to the effect that during the month of February the mill ran 24 days, crushing 1,000 tons yielding 457 ozs. of gold.

Inspector Corcoran has been appointed Acting Chief Inspector of Police during the absence of Chief Inspector Mathieson on leave, and Inspector Hennessy has taken Inspector Corcoran's place in charge of the Water Police.

Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Superintendent of the Government Civil Hospital, returned from leave on Friday by the P. & O. steamer *Ganges*. We regret to learn that Dr. Atkinson is suffering from pneumonia and will not be able to resume his duties for a few days.

On Tuesday afternoon, at No. 9 Police Station, Inspector Duncan and Mrs. Duncan were presented with a handsome tea service. Chief Inspector Corcoran made the presentation on behalf of the European police force. Inspector Duncan is shortly going home on leave.

The stamp revenue last month amounted to \$19,151, being an increase of \$7,609 on the amount collected in the same month last year. The largest increases were in bank note duty (\$2,887) and probate (\$2,948). There was also an increase of \$482 in the duty on the transfer of shares.

Mr. Ho Tung and his brother, Mr. Ho Fook, have, we learn, raised a subscription to the extent of \$144 from part of the Chinese community to be handed to the Captain Superintendent of Police for transmission to the relatives of the Sikh constable who was killed by one of the Wing Lok Street robbers.

Mr. George Horspool, Deputy Superintendent of Police, accompanied by Mrs. Horspool, left for home on the 6th inst. by the M.M. steamer *Ernest Simons*, on his retirement from the service, with which he has been connected for twenty-eight years. In Mr. Horspool the colony loses a capable and deservedly popular officer.

In future, it seems, says a Kobe contemporary, the N.Y.K. will run all the steamers required by its arrangement with the Japanese Mill-owners' Union for a regular service to Bombay. The N.Y.K. is reported to have chartered the two steamers of Messrs. Tata & Co. on the Bombay line, and the latter have withdrawn altogether from the agreement with the Company. The Bombay firm hereafter will simply act as N.Y.K. Agents.

The N. D. L. steamer *Nurnberg* when off Shimonoseki Strait passed two Japanese iron-clads and three of the captured Chinese men-of-war, the latter having the Chinese flag flying below the Japanese. These are no doubt the vessels that Renter informs us have arrived at Yokohama. In Nagasaki there were three Japanese men-of-war, one of which was in dry dock. The other two, the *Naniwa* and *Yoshino*, had finished their repairs and were taking in coal.

An alarming rumour was spread about the colony on Thursday. It was to the effect that either the plague or an epidemic of cholera had broken out in Macao, and that quite recently there had been seventy deaths in four days. Colour was lent to the report by the fact that the passenger traffic from Macao has of late been larger than usual. On enquiring at the Portuguese Consulate, however, we were informed by Mr. A. G. Romano that he had not heard anything whatever of the rumour. It was true there had been an outbreak of influenza, similar to that in this colony, but he had heard of no serious epidemic which need alarm the inhabitants of Hongkong. The Consul's family are at the present time staying at Macao and they would have certainly communicated with him if anything serious had occurred. Mr. Romano has since been officially informed by His Excellency the Governor of Macao that there is no epidemic of any kind in Macao.

St. Andrew's Hall on Thursday afternoon presented the appearance of a newly opened grocer's shop. Tables had been placed in the room and they were loaded with all kinds of articles which are mostly to be found in a well stocked grocer's warehouse. The object of the display of these products for the public gaze was to find a market in the East for raw and prepared Australian goods that are indispensable in every household. As is well known, it is Mr. E. Jerome Dyer who carried out the arrangements for the exhibition. He is making determined efforts to push Australian trade into these parts and with this object in view he brought a large assortment of samples with him, and the public were invited to inspect them in St. Andrew's Hall. A great deal of interest is being taken in Mr. Dyer's mission, and a large number of persons inspected and tasted the many comestibles on view. Nor was the wine neglected; that was sampled and pronounced excellent; but of course the soap, the perfumery, and the leather had to rest contented with an expression of opinion based merely upon an ocular scrutiny. Everyone seemed satisfied with the inspection, and it now remains to be seen whether the people of Hongkong will show a more substantial appreciation of Australian products by asking their importation to this colony. Amongst those who visited the hall were His Excellency the Governor (Sir William Robinson, and Lieut.-General Digby Barker and his staff.

The ladies and gentlemen who went on Tuesday afternoon (5th inst.) to the Odd Volumes Society's room to hear Mrs. Bishop give an address on Tibet had an exceptionally good treat. Mrs. Bishop dealt at some length with her travels in Western Tibet, and from start to finish her paper proved quite fascinating to the audience. It was a lecture which was really too good to be simply read; it ought to be published. It is written in a beautifully picturesque style, and was delivered in a manner which could not fail to be particularly attractive. Mrs. Bishop gave an excellent description of the country and the people she met with during her adventurous two months' journey. She indeed had some extraordinary experiences, and her lecture, if printed, would be sure to command a large sale. The people in Tibet wash once a year, and, except at festivals, never change their clothes, but wait till they drop off; but the peasantry in Tibet were better housed than any peasantry she had seen; they sung over their work, were cheerful, honest, straightforward, and courageous. The children were never washed, but were diligently rubbed over twice a day with animal fat. The people often asked why England did not take them over and give them peace, and Mrs. Bishop was forced to echo that question. At the conclusion of the address Mrs. Bishop was, on the motion of the chairman, Mr. J. J. Francis, elected the first honorary member of the Odd Volumes Society. Mrs. Bishop returned thanks for the honour, which would always be a pleasure to her.

A Sky race meeting is to be held on Saturday, 20th April.

The United States cruiser *Machias* arrived here on the 6th inst. and exchanged salutes with the port. The *Machias* left New York on the 30th November. She has a tonnage of 1,300, her horse power is 1,600, and she carries eight guns. Her officers are:—Commander Houston, Lieuts. W. P. Day, S. W. B. Dilke, J. D. Gilmore, J. H. Rohrbacher; Ensigns H. W. Scales, G. O. Day; Chief Engineer A. F. Dixon, Surgeon T. B. Bailey, Paymaster W. L. Wilson. The crew numbers 150.

On Saturday night another performance of the pantomime of "Robinson Crusoe" was given at the Theatre Royal by the members of the Hongkong Amateur Dramatic Club. The performance was under the patronage of Commodore Boyes, R.N., and the officers of H. M. Fleet, and was given by special request. It was evident soon after the curtain went up that the audience was in a very enthusiastic mood, and throughout the evening the applause was boisterous and encores were frequently demanded.

On Monday night Mr. P. McGregor read a paper at the Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders of Hongkong on radial valve gears. Mr. McGregor treated his subject from a practical point of view, and said that several of the gears mentioned in the paper were fitted to steamers trading on the China coast. The aim of the paper was to try and find out which of the radial valve gears was the most suitable from a sea-going engineer's point of view, or if ordinary link motion was preferable to any one of them. The paper was listened to with considerable interest and a discussion followed.

On Tuesday afternoon (5th inst.) the French mail steamer *Ernest Simons* was inspected by a large number of ladies and gentlemen at the invitation of Captain A. Vimont. A critical examination of this handsome boat was made, and there was a general expression of admiration for the luxuriously appointed arrangements. The dining, music, reading, and smoking saloons are all decorated in true French style, and the comfort of the passengers has been studied in every way. The visitors were generously entertained during the afternoon, and all came away highly pleased with having taken advantage of the opportunity to inspect the steamer, which leaves for Marseilles to-day.

His Honour Mr. E. J. Ackroyd left Hongkong for England on the 6th inst. by the French mail steamer *Ernest Simons*. Many of his friends and admirers assembled on old Pedder's Wharf in the morning and bade good bye to His Honour. Amongst those present were His Excellency the Governor (Sir William Robinson), Major-General Digby Barker, Mrs. and Miss Barker, Capt. Sterling, A.D.C., Capt. Murray, A.D.C., the Captain Superintendent of Police and Mrs. May, Mr. Justice and Mrs. Wise, Mr. and Mrs. D. Gillies, Messrs. H. E. Wodehouse and W. C. H. Hastings (Police Magistrates), Hon. J. J. Keswick, Dr. and Mrs. Hartigan, Mr. A. Seth, Mr. D. R. Sassoon, the whole of the members of the local Bar, and a large number of other leading residents.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN.			
	1894-95	1893-94	
	lbs.	lbs.	
Canton and Macao	7,597,185	8,178,784	
Amoy	772,692	720,993	
Foochow	13,777,348	21,329,281	
Shanghai and Hankow	21,591,498	28,514,030	
	43,738,723	55,743,038	

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.			
	1894-95	1893-94	
	lbs.	lbs.	
Canton	3,532,680	1,349,192	
Amoy	18,651,820	19,652,332	
Foochow	8,140,519	5,883,108	
Shanghai	25,783,527	24,176,826	
	56,108,546	51,061,456	

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO
ODESSA.

	1891-95 lbs.	1893-94 lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai	22,555,223	21,619,462

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED
STATES AND CANADA.

	1891-95 lbs.	1893-94 lbs.
Yokohama	28,686,847	28,523,737
Kobe	16,726,614	17,082,752
	45,413,461	45,611,489

SILK.

SHANGHAI, 7th March.—(From Messrs. Cronie and Burkill's circular).—London telegrams dated 5th current report the market "dull." Quotations are: Gold Kiling 7/7½, Blue Elephants 9/3. Raw Silk.—Business remains quiet, especially in White Silk, whereas Yellow Silks have been in fair demand. Prices for the former are slightly lower, but for the latter rates are firm. Tsatlees.—Transactions during the week have been small. Gold Lion were settled at Tls. 360, and Silver Double Elephant at Tls. 325. Taysams.—A few parcels have changed hands at quotations. Skeins.—A fair lot of Ching Yung Skeins have been settled at various prices according to quality. Yellow Silks.—Have been fairly active, and parcels of desirable qualities are getting scarce. Prices are unchanged, but the tendency is upwards. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, from the 28th to 6th March, are 472 bales of White, 101 bales of Yellow, and 39 bales of Wild Silk. Re-reels and Filatures.—In Re-reels there is nothing doing. Of ordinary Filatures market chop 1 and 2 a small lot changed hands at Tls. 455 and Tls. 445. Wild Silks.—The demand is slight. Some Szechuen Tussah Raws were settled at Tls. 121½ to Tls. 122½, and 8 Cocoons Tussah Filatures were taken at Tls. 242½. Waste Silk.—The market is quite lifeless. Cocoon Flosses No. 1 changed hands to a small extent at Tls. 17½. Pongees.—About 1,500 pieces of 21/23 oz. Shantung Pongees were sold at Tls. 2.25 to Tls. 2.45, according to merit, for Indian markets.

Purchases include:—Tsatlees.—Mountain 3 at Tls. 400, do. 4 at Tls. 370, Gold Lion at Tls. 360, Silver Double Elephant at Tls. 325. Taysam.—Wh. Kahing Gold Lion No. 1 at Tls. 312½, 9/12 Moss Butterfly 2 at Tls. 297½, do. Green Stork 3 at Tls. 295, do. 4 at Tls. 247½. Skeins.—Chingyung Best at Tls. 265, do. Market Chop 1 and 2 at Tls. 215 to Tls. 232½. Yellow Silk.—Shantung Skeins Blue Goat Chop at Tls. 258½, Mienchew at Tls. 237½ to Tls. 250, Kopun at Tls. 225, Meeyang at Tls. 222½, White Meeyang at Tls. 225, Fopyung at Tls. 195 to Tls. 212½. Szechong at Tls. 173½. Filature.—Market Chop 1 and 2 at Tls. 455 to Tls. 445. Wild Silk.—Szechuen Tussah Raw at Tls. 121½ to Tls. 122½, War Foong Tussah Filature 8 Cocoons at Tls. 242½.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND
JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1891-95 bales.	1893-94 bales.
Canton	12,888	14,501
Shanghai	45,889	45,944
Yokohama	19,196	17,189

Total to date 77,973 77,634

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN
TO AMERICA.

	1891-95 bales.	1893-94 bales.
Canton	6,568	2,734
Shanghai	7,357	2,510
Yokohama	22,921	13,986
	36,846	19,230

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 13th March.—The demand has been slack and prices are weaker. Quotations for Formosa are \$44.00 to \$44.50. During the past week sales have been 200 piculs. Quotations for Japanese camphor are \$47.50 to \$48.00. Sales 100 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 13th March.—The demand last noted was of short duration. During the past week there has been a very meagre business and prices have declined. Following are the quotations:—Shekloong, No. 1, White... \$7.50 to 7.55 per picul. do. 2, White... 6.92 to 6.95. Shekloong, No. 1, Brown... 4.84 to 4.87. do. 2, Brown... 4.61 to 4.65. Swatow, No. 1, White... 7.37 to 7.40. do. 2, White... 6.80 to 6.85. do. 1, Brown... 4.52 to 4.55.

Swatow, No. 2, Brown... 4.35 to 4.38 per picul.
Fochow Sugar Candy 10.65 to 10.85
Shekloong 9.34 to 9.38

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

The steamer *Glenshiel*, Hongkong to London, 21st February, took:—35 cases Fans, 75 casks Preserves, 7 cases Straw Hats, 27 cases Blackwoodware, 106 Chinaware, 4 rolls Matting, 3 cases Silk, and 2,137 packages Chinese Sundries.

The steamer *Glenfalloch*, Hongkong to London, 1st March, took:—5 cases Bristles, 100 bales Waste Silk, 400 rolls Mats, 27 cases Cigars, 8 bales Hemp, 1,587 cases Preserves, 120 casks Preserves, and 3 boxes Curios; for Havre option London option Hamburg:—100 boxes Camphor.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 13th March.—Bengal.—The market continued dull and on the decline until very recently, when a spurt took place and prices recovered, closing quiet at \$755 for New Patna, \$720 for Old Patna, \$725 for New Benares, and \$700 for Old Benares.

Malwa.—There has been hardly any change in the rates for this drug during the period under review. Latest quotations are as under:—New \$690 with allow'ce of 1 to 2 cts. Old (2 to 4 yrs.) \$700 " 0 to 1 " " (5 to 7 yrs.) \$710 " 1 to 1½ "

Persian.—The demand has continued very meagre and a further drop has taken place in prices. Closing figures are \$720 to \$750 for Oily and \$750 to \$800 for Paper-wrapped according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

	NEW PATNA	OLD PATNA	NEW BENARES	OLD BENARES	MALWA
New Patna	1,160 chests.				
Old Patna	1,520 "				
New Benares	225 "				
Old Benares	1,240 "				
Malwa	1,140 "				
Persian	1,060 "				

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	New.	Old.
1895.						
Mar. 6	\$ 725	760	700	725	690	700/710
Mar. 7	725	760	700	725	690	700/710
Mar. 8	725	760	700	725	690	700/710
Mar. 9	720	750	700	710	690	700/710
Mar. 10	720	750	700	710	690	700/710
Mar. 11	710	745	690	710	690	700/710
Mar. 12	710	752½	700	720	690	700/710
Mar. 13	720	755	700	725	690	700/710

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 13th March.—Transactions have been very limited and prices have not improved. Stocks: 982 bales Bengal, 208 bales Dacca, 277 bales Rangoon, and about 500 bales of Chinese Cotton.

Bombay	\$12.00 to 14.00 p. picul.
Kurrachee	12.00 to 14.00 "
Bengal, Rangoon, and Dacca	12.00 to 15.00 "
Shanghai and Japanese	16.00 to 17.50 "
Tungchow and Ningpo	16.00 to 17.50 "
Madras	14.00 to 16.00 "
Sales: 406 bales Bengal, Rangoon, and Dacca, 500 bales Shanghai and Japanese, Tungchow and Ningpo.	

RICE.

HONGKONG, 13th March.—The market remains firm, but with only a moderate business passing. Closing quotations are:—

	per picul
Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.09 to 2.10
" Round, good quality	2.28 to 2.30
" Long	2.37 to 2.40
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2	2.17 to 2.19
" Garden, " No. 1	2.48 to 2.51
Siam White	2.93 to 2.96
" Fine Cargo	3.18 to 3.21

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 13th March.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—Bombay Yarn.—730 bales No. 10 at \$68 to \$77, 615 bales No. 12 at \$68 to \$72.50, 45 bales No. 16 at \$74 to \$80, 925 bales No. 20 at \$79 to \$83. Grey Shirtings.—250 pieces 10 lbs. Red 5 men at \$3.12½, 600 pieces Red Cock at \$2.42½. White Shirtings.—300 pieces Gold Tiger at \$5.70, 750 pieces D.F. Chop at \$4.60; 300 pieces E.F. Chop at \$6.30. T-Cloths.—2,500 pieces 6 lbs. Bombay at \$1.65. Fancy Cotton.—400 pieces Italian Stag and Monkey at \$0.12½. Muslin.—3,000 pieces Checked at \$0.68. Camlets.—70 pieces assorted 8 persons at \$18, 80 pieces U.U. Chop at \$18.50. Handkerchiefs.—1,000 doz. Imitation Silk at \$0.47.

METALS.—Iron.—300 piculs Old Wire at \$2.25. Lead.—1,600 piculs Australia at \$5.35. Yellow Metal.—40 cases New Branch at \$24.90, 20 cases New Branch 10/14 oz. at \$25.75. Tin.—150 slabs Foong Choi at \$36.50 to \$36.70.

COTTON YARN.	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20	\$61.00 to \$86.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24	96.00 to 100.00
" 22 to 24	101.00 to 105.00
" 28 to 32	108.00 to 114.00
" 38 to 42	116.00 to 125.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.	per piece
Grey Shirtings—6lbs.	1.40 to 1.50
7lbs.	1.85 to 2.05
8.4 lbs.	2.40 to 3.10
9 to 10 lbs.	3.25 to 3.60
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.10 to 2.30
58 to 60 "	2.60 to 3.10
64 to 66 "	3.20 to 3.60
Fine	3.90 to 6.20
Book-folds	3.50 to 5.20
Victoria Lawns—12 yards	0.60 to 1.35
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	1.40 to 1.50
7lbs. (32 ")	1.80 to 1.90
6lbs. (32 "), Mexs.	1.60 to 1.70
7lbs. (32 ")	2.05 to 2.25
8 to 8½ lbs. (36 in.)	2.20 to 2.90
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ to 4lbs.	3.20 to 4.20

FANCY COTTONS	
Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 5lbs.	1.30 to 2.70
Brocades—Dyed	3.90 to 4.95
Damasks	0.13 to 0.17
Chintzes—Assorted	3.07 to 0.12
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.21 to 0.32
Velveteens—18 in.	0.18 to 0.24
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk	0.45 to 0.85
WOOLLENS	per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.	0.55 to 0.85
German	0.95 to 1.10
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths.	1.20 to 2.60

Long Ells—Scarlet	per piece
Assorted	6.50 to 7.80
Camlets—Assorted	6.60 to 7.90
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches, Assorted	14.00 to 29.00
Orleans—Plain	13.50 to 21.00
Blankets—8 to 12lbs.	3.70 to 4.90

METALS	per picul
Iron—Nail Rod	3.25 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar	3.20 to 3.25
Swedish Bar	4.75 to —
Small Round Rod	3.55 to —
Hoop	4.60 to —
Old Wire Rope	3.00 to —
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop	6.50 to —

Yellow M'tal—Muntz, 14/28 oz.	per case
Vivian's, 16/32 oz.	26.25 to —
Elliot's, 16/28 oz.	25.75 to —
Japan Copper	25.50 to —
Tin	24.50 to —
Tin-Plates	37.00 to —

Steel	per box
	6.00 to —
per cwt. case	
Steel	5.50 to —

SUNDRIES AND COALS.	per picul
Quicksilver	117.50 to 118.00
per bhr	
Window Glass	3.20 to —
per 10-gal. case	
Kerosene Oil	1.80 to —

per 10-gal. case	
Kerosene Oil	1.80 to —

SHANGHAI, 7th March.—(From Mr. G. W. Noel's

report.)—The only event of interest this week has been the departure of the Lientsin steamers. The advice of a sudden cold snap having set in was received from the North just after the publication of the last report, and this being amply confirmed by the weather here, the departure of the fleet was postponed until the morning of the 5th inst., when twenty-one steamed out of Port. Of these only some five or six carried piece goods or yarn (the rest being loaded with rice and "chowchow" cargo), the quantity taken being 7,370 packages, or not more than one-fifth of an ordinary season. The following are the particulars of the shipments:—950 bales American Sheetings, 700 bales do. Drills, 10 bales do. Jeans, 15 bales English Sheetings, 20 bales do. Drills, 110 bales do. Jeans, 380 cases White Shirtings, 10 cases White Irishes, 83 cases Turkey Reds, 536 cases Printed T-Cloths Twills, etc., 293 cases Cotton Lasting and other dyed goods, 188 packages Woollen and Union goods, 150 bales Indian Sheetings, 325 bales Dutch Drills, 100 bales do. Jeans, 870 bales 8.4-lbs. Shirtings, 183 bales 10/12 lbs. do., 75 bales 4½/6 lbs. do., 120 bales English T-Cloths, 155 bales Indian do., 25 cases Velvet and Velveteens, 51p bales English and Indian 2 and 3 fold Yarn, and

1,500 bales Indian Single Yarns. In consequence of telegraphic instructions some 2,000 packages were withdrawn at the last moment. The steamers should arrive at Taku sometime this afternoon and advices are anxiously waited for now. To-day enquiries have been received for Dutch Jeans and Drills for Tientsin especially. Nothing very authentic will be known concerning the state of the market until the return of the steamers at the beginning of next week, but meanwhile the dealers are commencing to move round more freely and are anxious to find out exactly what importers have on hand, so as to be ready to buy if the advices should be favourable. China appears to be in earnest now in suing for peace, and if the Japanese demands are not too exorbitant there seems to be a fair chance of an arrangement being come to, but not good enough to speculate on yet. Business during the interval has continued on the same narrow lines as for the last few weeks, the purchases from stock being chiefly for Ningpo and the local market. Rather more attention has been accorded to American Sheetings than for some time, but Drills appear doomed to be spoilt in the same way Sheetings were last spring, namely, by the hasty manner in which some of the shippers in the States are endeavouring to sell goods. A parcel of 4,000 bales Pepperells has been hawked round during the last few days, six or seven different firms in succession receiving the refusal of them at gradually declining prices, and at this critical time, too, when both foreigners and natives are already full of anxiety! It is really difficult to account for this action, as it certainly ought to be known by this time that the season for these goods does not begin much before May. Grey Cottons at auction have kept fairly steady where the quantity has not been excessive, but bleached goods are decidedly weaker. Woollens, too, are quiet, and have gone rather in favour of the buyers. The Manchester market is very quiet and prices are again easier for goods not deeply engaged. Last month's export was much more moderate than expected, namely, 28 million yards of Plain Cottons to Hongkong and China, the Yarn shipments being 2,300 bales to Hongkong, 2,500 bales to Japan, and 1,200 bales to this Port. Orders from Chefoo have put a little more life into the market for Indian Yarns, and a fairly good business has been done at firmer prices. The demand is chiefly for Nos. 16s. and 20s. still, the future of the Newchwang trade being too uncertain yet to induce much attention to the lower count. It is thought in some quarters that it will be carried on via Japan in that country's vessels, but that would certainly be a menace to British trade.

Metals and Miscellaneous.—(From Mr. Alex. Bielfeld's report.)—7th March:—There has been very little buying going on during the week. Natives have been busy shipping goods for the northern ports. Lead, "spot," L.B., has sold at Tls. 5.60 prompt. Nothing is reported done in Nailrol and Bar Iron.—100 tons Plate Cuttings are on record as booked at 73/c.i.f., etc., and 200 tons Scrap Iron at 64; Double Horse chop, Bamboo Steel, at £10.5.

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 13th March.—The market has remained quiet since date of our last, but rates have ruled steady and in some cases show an improvement. We have nothing of importance to report.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have ruled quiet with small sales at 144 per cent. prem. for cash; market closes with small buyers at quotation. Nationals have improved to \$204 ex div. with sales.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders have found further buyers at \$65, and close steady at that rate. Unions have improved to \$152½ with sales, and Yangtszes have changed hands at \$90. Other Marines have been more or less neglected.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have found small investing buyers at \$176 and \$175 ex div., and Chinas are enquired for at quotation without finding sellers.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton, and Macao.—With the conclusion of the arrangement with the opposition boats shares jumped to \$3, with sales at that and at \$28½, \$29, and \$29½; market closes firm at \$30. Indo-Chinas are in demand at \$38, but none seem forthcoming. Douglas's are rather easier with sellers at \$5½ ex div. China-Manilas continue neglected. Mutuals rule steady at £7 for preferences.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars are very much weaker, sellers ruling the market at \$140. The weakness is attributable to the declaration of a final dividend of 4 per cent., which is less than was anticipated.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Docks continue to change hands in small lots at 83 per cent. prem. Lands have been in good demand and many shares have changed hands at \$53, \$53½, \$54, and \$54½. The demand has chiefly been of an investing nature and a great many shares have been taken by investors outside the colony. Green Islands have changed hands at \$6, Kowloon Wharfs at \$36, Watsons at \$9½, and Fenwicks at \$15.

MINING.—We have nothing to report except a rise in Balmorals to \$5.25, with sales at \$4.75, \$5, \$5.10, and \$5.25. Punjoms have ruled weak at \$6, and Raubs at \$3.95 with sales.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		[& sellers]
Hongkong & S'hai.	\$125	144 p. ct. pm., sales
China, Japan, & Co.	\$22.50	nom.
Do., Founders.....	\$1	nom.
Nat. Bank of Ch.		
B. Shares.....	\$8	\$20½, ex div. sellers
Foun. Shares.	\$1	n m.
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	\$1	10
Do.	15s.	\$7½
Brown & Co., H. G....	\$50	15, sellers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	2
China Borneo	\$55	nom.
China Sugar	\$100	\$140, sellers
Chinese Loan '86 E.	Tls. 250	11 p. ct. pm.
Dakin, Cruicks'k & Co.	\$5	1
Dairy Farm Co.	\$10	15, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	15, sellers
Green Island Cement	\$50	16, sales
H. Brick & Cement.	\$12.50	4, sales & buyers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	136
Hongkong & C. Gas.	\$10	125, buyers
Hongkong Electric...	\$8	\$4.75, sale & buyers
H. H. L. Tramways.	\$100	65, sales
Hongkong Ice.....	\$25	\$76
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	36, sales & sellers
Hongkong Rope.....	\$50	128, buyers
H. & W. Dock.....	\$125	83 p. ct. pm., sales
Hotels—		
Hongkong Hotel...	\$50	9, buyers
Shamoen	\$20	14
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$157½, buyers
China Fire	\$20	77, sales & buyer
China Traders' ...	\$25	65, sales & sellers
Hongkong Fire ...	\$50	175, ex div. sales
North-China	\$25	Tls. 207½, sales
Straits Marine.....	\$20	22½, buyers
Union	\$5	\$152½, buyers
Yangtsze	\$60	90, sales
Land & Building—		
H. Land Investm't	\$50	\$54½, sales & sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	8
Humphreys Estate	\$10	10, sales
West Point Buildg.	\$40	15, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$48, sellers
Mining—		
New Balmoral.....	\$3	\$5.25, sales & sellers
Charbonnages.....	\$131.58	\$75, sellers
Jebeu	\$5	\$4.40, sales & seller
Punjom	\$3½	\$6, sales & sellers
Do. (Preference)	\$1	\$1.75
Raubs	13s. 10d	\$3.90, sales
Steamship Coys.—		
China & Manila ...	\$50	\$65, sellers
Douglas S. S. Co....	\$50	\$51, ex div. sellers
H., Canton, & M....	\$20	\$30, sales & sellers
Indo-China S. N....	\$10	\$38
W'chai Wareh'se Co.	\$37½	\$37½
Watson & Co., A. S....	\$10	\$9.50, sales & buyers

CHATER & VERNON, Share Brokers.

SHANGHAI, 8th March.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s report.)—Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—A few shares changed hands locally at 145 per cent. premium on the 1st. On the 6th a purchase was made from Hongkong at 144 per cent. premium, with exchange 71½, equal to 141½ and 73, which is the closing rate. Shipping.—One or two lots of Shanghai Tugs were sold at Tls. 125. Indo-China S. N. shares were sold at Tls. 26½. China Mutual S. N. Co. shares are wanted at T. Tls. 60. Docks.—Shares in S. C. Farnham & Co. were sold, and are wanted at Tls. 130. Marine Insurance.—China Traders' shares are offering at \$65, and North-Chinas at Tls. 207½. Yangtszes were placed at \$90, and Straits at \$21½. Fire Insurance.—Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—A sale was made at \$176 ex the proposed dividend. Chinas have been placed at \$77 for cash and \$80 for 30th June and 31st May, ex. div. Wharfs.—Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co. shares have been placed at Tls. 280. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown shares are obtainable at \$36. Cargo Boats.—Shanghais have been sold at Tls. 150 cum div. Miscellaneous.—Business has been done in Shanghai Waterworks shares at Tls. 175, Perak Sugar Cultivation shares at Tls. 29, Hongkong Land Investment shares, from Hongkong, at \$52½,

and Shanghai-Lankat Tobacco shares at Tls. 100. Loans.—One or two lots of Shanghai Land six per cent. Debentures were placed at par.

Quotations are:—
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—141½ per cent. prem.

Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited.—Nominal.

Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited, Founders.—Nominal.

National Bank of China, Ltd., A.—\$18½.

National Bank of China, Ltd., B.—Nominal.

National Bank of China, Ltd., Founders.—Nom.

Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Tls. 125 per sh.

Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 26½ per sh.

China Mutual S. N. Co.—\$52 per share.

Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—T. Tls. 60 per sh.

Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co.—\$28 per share.

Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$53 per share.

Shanghai Dock Co.—Tls. 550 per share.

Boyd & Co., Ltd., Founders.—Tls. 300 per share.

Boyd & Co., Limited.—Tls. 150 per share.

S. C. Farnham & Co.—Tls. 130 per share.

Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—\$3 per cent. premium.

China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$66 per share.

North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Tls. 207½ per share.

Union Ins. Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$150 per share.

Yangtsze Insce. Assocn., Ltd.—\$90 per share.

Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$155 per share.

Straits Insurance Co., Limited.—\$22½ per share.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$190 per sh.

China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$77 per share.

Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 280 per share.

Birt's Wharf Hide-curing and Wool-cleaning Company.—Tls. 37 per share.

Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited.—\$36 per share.

Sheridan Consolidated Mining and Milling Company, Limited.—Tls. 1 per share.

Punjom Mining Co., Ltd.—\$6 per share.

Punjom Mining Co., Ltd., pref. shares—\$1½ per share.

Jebeu Mining & Trading Co., Ltd.—\$4½ per sh.

Raub Australian Gold Min. Co., Ltd.—\$4.15 p. sh.

Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 142½ per share.

Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 123 per sh.

Shanghai Gas Co.—Tls. 200 per share.

Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd.—\$4 per share.

Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—Tls. 175 p. sh.

Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Tls. 29 p. sh.

China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$150 per sh.

Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$48 per share.

Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—\$16 per share.

Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd.—Tls. \$4.80 per share.

Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$52½ p. sh.

J. Llewellyn & Co., Limited.—\$37½ per share.

Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.—Tls. 33½ per sh.

Major Brothers, Limited.—Tls. 25 per share.

Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco Co.—Tls. 410 p. sh.

Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Tls. 100 per share.

Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd., Founders—Nominal.

Shanghai Ice Company—Tls. 117½ per share.

A. S. Watson & Co., Limited.—\$9½ per share.

L'Hotel des Colonies—Tls. 20.

China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company Debentures.—Nominal.

Lyceum Theatre Debentures.—Tls. 12.

Chinese Imp. Gov. Loan, 1886, E.—Tls. 250 (a).

Shanghai Municipal Debentures.—Tls. 100 (a).

Shanghai Land Investment Company Debentures.—Tls. 100 (a).

Shanghai Land Investment Company Debentures.—Tls. 94.

(a) Exclusive of accrued interest.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 13th March.—Since last report our freight market has undergone a very great improvement, especially for tonnage to load at the southern rice ports for this.

From Saigon to Hongkong there has been a very lively demand and a large amount of tonnage has been settled at rates varying from 16 to 21 cents per picul. The demand still continues and 19 to 19½ cents for large and 20 to 21 cents for small carriers may be quoted as the closing rate.

From Bangkok to Hongkong steamers are wanted at 20 cents outside and 25 cents inside the bar. Only two settlements have been effected and rates must improve to at least 25/30 cents to compare with the rates now being paid from Saigon.

Coal freights from Japan have improved somewhat, \$2.15 now being the current rate.

Sailing tonnage, hence to New York, for present loading is not in demand, but for May to June loading 16s. is offered. One sailer has been fixed for Callao at about 27s. 6d. per ton of 50 cubic feet and no more tonnage is wanted.

The American ships *Gerard C. Tobey*, 1,390 tons, and *Governor Robie*, 1,627 tons, proceed to Singapore and Iloilo respectively to load for the United States under charters effected elsewhere.

There are five vessels disengaged in port registering 5,764 tons.

The following are the settlements:—

Governor Robie—American ship, 1,627 tons, proceeds to Iloilo under orders from owners.

Gerard C. Tobey—American barque, 1,390 tons, proceeds to Singapore under orders from owners.

Geo. F. Manson—American ship, 1,418 tons, Mantung to Singapore, \$3,000 in full; Singapore to Hongkong, \$7,000 in full.

Gartha—Norwegian barque, 541 tons, Rajang to Hongkong, \$4,600 in full.

Mohican—American barque, 963 tons, Hongkong to Callao, \$1,650 in full.

Bygdo—Norwegian steamer, 916 tons, Chinkiang to Canton, 13 candareens per picul.

Tamarind—Norwegian steamer, 885 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, \$5,500 in full.

Bygdo—Norwegian steamer, 916 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 20/25 cents per picul.

Cassius—German steamer, 1,606 tons, Amoy to Singapore, \$7,800 in full.

Albion—German steamer, 1,201 tons, Amoy to Singapore, \$5.50 per head.

Moldava—British steamer, 1,477 tons, Takao to Yokohama, 25 cents per picul.

Shantung—British steamer, 1,855 tons, Saigon to Sourabaya, 28 cents per picul.

Tellus—Norwegian steamer, 1,657 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 16 cents per picul.

Progress—German steamer, 798 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 17 cents per picul.

Protonis—British steamer, 1,389 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 17 cents per picul.

Benmohr—British steamer, 1,925 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 17 cents per picul.

Annandale—British steamer, 2,538 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 17½ cents per picul.

Paoting—British steamer, 1,088 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 18 cents per picul.

Taile—German steamer, 939 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 19 cents per picul.

China—German steamer, 1,093 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 19 cents per picul.

Holstein—German steamer, 1,103 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 19 cents per picul.

Benlawers—British steamer, 1,394 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 19 cents per picul.

Dryfesdale—British steamer, 1,574 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 19 cents per picul.

Cassius—German steamer, 1,606 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 19½ cents per picul.

Straits of Dover—British steamer, 1,904 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 19½ cents per picul.

Parthian—British steamer, 1,040 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 20 cents per picul.

Gloucester City—British steamer, 1,409 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 20 cents per picul.

Benlawers—British steamer, 1,434 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 20 cents per picul.

Tetartos—German steamer, 1,578 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 20 cents per picul.

Siam—British steamer, 992 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 21 cents per picul.

Asloun—British steamer, 1,827 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, \$10,600 in full.

Port Adelaide—British steamer, 1,717 tons, Moji to Hongkong.

Albert—Norwegian steamer, 545 tons, monthly, 3/3 months, \$3,750 per month.

Cosmopolit—German steamer, 552 tons, monthly, 3/2 months, \$4,200 per month.

Holstein—German steamer, 1,103 tons, monthly, 4 months, \$5,700 per month.

Taiyick—German steamer, 1,046 tons, monthly, 8 months, \$6,150 per month.

Marie Jensen—German steamer, 1,850 tons, monthly, 3/3 months, \$8,000 per month.

WEDNESDAY, 13th March. EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1 11½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/11½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	—
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/11½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/0½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/0½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.48
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.53
ON GERMANY.—	
On Demand	2.00
ON NEW YORK.—	
Banks Bills, on demand	48½
Credits, 60 days' sight	49½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	183½
Bank, on demand	184
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	183½
Bank, on demand	184
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Banks, at sight	71½
Private, 30 days' sight	72½

ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand par.

ON MANILA.—

On demand 16 % pm., nom.

ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand ½ % pm.

SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate 9.95

GO D LEAF, 100 fine, per tael 51.50

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—*Malacca* (str.), *Myrmidon* (str.), *Aden* (str.), *Carmarthenshire* (str.), *Elas* (str.).
For HAVRE and HAMBURG.—*Gerda* (str.).
For AMSTERDAM.—*Oceanic* (str.).
For BREMEN.—*Bayern* (str.).
For MARSEILLES.—*Saghalien* (str.), *Spondilus* (str.).
For VANCOUVER.—*Empress of Japan* (str.).
For VICTORIA, B.C.—*Sikh* (str.).
For SAN FRANCISCO.—*Tillie E. Starbuck*, *City of Peking* (str.), *Coptic* (str.), *Queen Margaret*.
For NEW YORK.—*St. David*, *Sintram*, *Lucy A. Nickels*.
For AUSTRALIA.—*Catterthun* (str.).

SHIPPING

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

February—

ARRIVALS.
5. Menmuir, British str., from Sydney.
5. Pallas, British str., from Kutchinotzu.
6. Machias, Amr. cruiser, from Singapore.
6. Macduff, British str., from Liverpool.
6. Frejr, Danish str., from Pakhoi.
6. Alexandrine, German cr., from Nagasaki.
6. Manila, British str., from Bombay.
6. Taksang, British str., from Chinkiang.
7. Hailoong, British str., from Tamsui.
7. Sikh, British str., from Tacoma.
7. Holstein, German str., from Saigon.
7. Doris, German str., from Canton.
7. Kwanglee, British str., from Canton.
7. Caledonien, French str., from Marseilles.
7. Glengarry, British str., from London.
7. Cassius, German str., from Moji.
7. Nurnberg, German str., from Yokohama.
7. Bygdo, Norwegian str., from Canton.
7. China, German str., from Saigon.
8. Activ, Danish str., from Pakhoi.
8. Ganges, British str., from Bombay.
8. Phra C. C. Klao, Brit. str., from Bangkok.
8. Choysang, British str., from Canton.
8. Fokien, British str., from Swatow.
8. Tantalus, British str., from London.
8. Lyeemooon, German str., from Canton.
8. Siam, British str., from Bombay.
9. Sishan, British str., from Saigon.
9. Vindobona, Austrian str., from Kobe.
9. Zafiro, British str., from Manila.
9. Thales, British str., from Taiwanfoo.
9. Kungping, British str., from Canton.
9. Titan, British str., from Manchester.
9. Canton, British str., from Shanghai.
9. Pakshan, British str., from Bangkok.
9. Alexandrine, German cr., from a cruise.
9. Oakley, British str., from New York.
9. Shantung, British str., from Sourabaya.
10. Formosa, British str., from Tanmui.
10. Lyderhorn, Norw. str., from Kutchinotzu.
10. Monmouthshire, British str., from Kobe.
10. Parthian, British str., from Saigon.
10. Sophie Rickmers, Ger. str., from Amoy.
10. Str. of Dover, British str., from Moji.
10. Lucy A. Nickels, Amr. bark, from Amoy.
11. Benlawers, British str., from Saigon.
11. Whampoa, British str., from Canton.
11. Yueosang, British str., from Manila.
11. Ajax, British str., from Liverpool.
11. Namoa, British str., from Coast Ports.
11. Tetartos, German str., from Saigon.
11. Ask, Danish str., from Haiphong.
11. Ancona, British str., from Yokohama.
11. Changsha, British str., from Sydney.
11. Denteros, German str., from Bangkok.
11. Ormiston, British str., from Moji.
11. Triumph, German str., from Pakhoi.
11. Merionethshire, British str., from London.
11. Caleb Curtis, British sch., from Parac-la.
12. Wingsang, British str., from Calcutta.
12. Ayr, British str., from Kutchinotzu.
12. Chusan, German str., from Shanghai.
12. Niobe, German str., from Hamburg.
12. Rohilla, British str., from Shanghai.

12. Taisang, British str., from Shanghai.
12. Peiyang, German str., from Chinkiang.
12. Swift, British g.-bt., from Singapore.
12. Cromarty, British str., from Samarang.
13. Taksang, British str., from Canton.
13. Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
13. Exe, British str., from Barry.
13. Fushun, British str., from Shanghai.
13. Ghazee, British str., from Yokohama.
13. Gloucester City, British str., from Saigon.
13. Brunhilde, German str., from Chinkiang.
13. Canton, British str., from Canton.
13. Ethiopie, British str., from Moji.
13. Gerda, German str., from Kobe.
13. Hailoong, British str., from Swatow.
13. Krim, Norw. str., from Moji.
13. Loosok, British str., from Bangkok.
13. Michael Jebson, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
13. Pekin, British str., from Amoy.
13. Strathmore, British str., from Java.

March—

DEPARTURES.

6. Continental, Dutch str., for Amoy.
6. Anamor, British str., for Kobe.
6. Bormida, Italian str., for Bombay.
6. City of Rio de Janeiro, Amr. str., for San Francisco.
6. Ernest Simons, French str., for Europe.
6. Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
6. Hertha, German str., for Singapore.
6. Spondilus, British str., for Shanghai.
7. Rio, German str., for Saigon.
7. Riversdale, British str., for Moji.
7. Foyle, British str., for Kebao.
7. Decima, German str., for Saigon.
7. Alexandrine, German cruiser, for a cruise.
7. Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
7. Devawongse, British str., for Bangkok.
7. Hanoi, French str., for Hoihow.
7. Macduff, British str., for Shanghai.
7. Siam, British str., from Swatow.
7. Taksang, British str., for Canton.
7. Taichow, British str., for Singapore.
8. Kwongmo, British str., for Amoy.
8. Tellus, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
8. Menmuir, British str., for Shanghai.
8. Vsadnik, Russian tor.-cruiser, for Foochow.
8. Gaydameak, Russian tor.-cr., for Foochow.
8. Amigo, German str., for Bangkok.
8. Caledonien, French str., for Shanghai.
8. Doris, German str., for Takau.
8. Frejr, Danish str., for Pakhoi.
8. Sintram, American ship, for New York.
8. Manila, British str., for Kobe.
8. Kwanglee, British str., for Shanghai.
8. Prinz Heinrich, German str., for Europe.
8. Choysang, British str., for Swatow.
8. Esmeralda, British str., for Manila.
9. Pallas, British str., for Kutchinotzu.
9. Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
9. Siam, British str., for Yokohama.
9. Detroit, American cruiser, for Nagasaki.
9. Ganges, British str., for Shanghai.
9. Peru, American str., for San Francisco.
9. Bygdo, Norw. str., for Amoy.
9. Glengarry, British str., for Shanghai.
9. Lyeemooon, German str., for Shanghai.
10. Activ, Danish str., for Hoihow.
10. Canton, British str., for Canton.
10. Fokien, British str., for Swatow.
10. Holstein, German str., for Saigon.
10. Tantalus, British str., for Nagasaki.
10. Titan, British str., for Shanghai.
11. Kungping, British str., for Shanghai.
11. Vindobona, Austrian str., for Trieste.
12. Thales, British str., for Swatow.
12. Oakley, British str., for Shanghai.
12. Asloun, British str., for Saigon.
12. Ajax, British str., for Amoy.
12. Catherine Apar, British str., for Calcutta.
12. China, German str., for Saigon.
12. Hupeh, British str., for Swatow.
12. Sishan, British str., for Amoy.
12. Taisang, British str., for Canton.
12. Whampoa, British str., for Swatow.
12. Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
13. Monmouthshire, British str., for London.
13. Chusan, German str., for Canton.
13. Namoa, British str., for Coast Ports.
13. Sabine Rickmers, German str., for Swatow.
13. Cassius, German str., for Amoy.
13. Lyderhorn, Norw. str., for Kutchinotzu.
13. Marie Jensen, German str., for Swatow.
13. Orono, British str., for Kobe.
13. Pakshan, British str., for Swatow.
13. Peiyang, German str., for Canton.
13. P. C. C. Klao, British str., for Bangkok.
13. Taksang, British str., for Swatow.
13. Leander, British cruiser, for a cruise.